

Memo

To: Community Services Commission
From: Irvine Sports Committee
Date: January 14, 2021
Re: **Outdoor and Indoor Youth and Recreation Adult Sports**

The Irvine Sports Committee members are requesting that the Community Services Commission please place on the January 20, 2021 agenda a discussion of our recommended action regarding the California Department of Public Health Outdoor and Indoor Youth and Recreational Adult Sports guidance.

The Irvine Sports Committee represents 23 youth sports organizations providing roughly 7,000 youth with athletic programming opportunities. The global pandemic of COVID-19 has drastically changed youth sports over the last ten months. Due to guidance by the California Department of Public Health for Outdoor and Indoor Youth and Recreational Adult Sports, sports organizations are restricted on the type of athletic programming they are currently able to provide.

At the moment, there is no oversight or enforcement of the current rules and guidelines put in place – some indoor facilities and sports programs are still currently open and operating in Orange County and surrounding counties.

The lack of local games is forcing our teams and players to travel out of the area, county or state to participate in competitions. More leeway in guidelines is needed to allow kids and families to stay locally, remain active and safely participate in the sports and activities they love.

The Irvine Sports Committee is requesting the Community Services Commission to recommend to the Irvine City Council and/or work with the County and the State to modify the following outdoor sports guidelines:

- Clarify that a “cohort” = one team. Members of a team will only practice and participate with/against each other.
- Eliminate the six-foot physical distancing rule by requiring masks to be worn while in close contact on and off the playing field/court at all times.



Cary Lambeth
Vice Chair - Irvine Sports Committee