

From: [Robert Garvin](#)
To: [Supervisor Candace Andersen](#); [Supervisor Burgis](#); [Supervisor Mitchoff](#)
Subject: Re: Ad Hoc Committee Covid-19 Impact & Recovery Meeting May 14th - IMPACT Soccer Club
Date: Wednesday, July 1, 2020 12:32:10 PM

Dear Supervisor Andersen, Supervisor Burgis & Supervisor Mitchoff,

I am reaching back out to you seeking a response to my previously sent email. I have heard from the City of Brentwood and we are able to hold activities but would like an official response back from the county if possible. Additionally, I am hoping somebody can share why Soccer is mentioned in the graphic vs. other sports (although also mentioned is all Youth sports) - I think it is very misleading and confusing. I've also noticed that baseball practices and games have all resumed - which is great - but I don't see this noted on the graphic either - it would be great to show this type of forward progress.

Truly appreciate your support and response.

All the best,

Robert Garvin
Impact Soccer Club President

On Fri, Jun 19, 2020 at 3:25 PM Robert Garvin wrote:

Dear Supervisor Andersen, Supervisor Burgis & Supervisor Mitchoff,

Thank you for the work you are doing in relation to this COVID-19 pandemic. I am hoping you can help provide some clarity around a graphic that was recently produced.

My name is Robert Garvin and I am the President of Impact Soccer in Brentwood, CA. Last month I attended and spoke at the County Supervisor Meeting held on May 14th. In this meeting I specifically inquired about the ability to provide "Soccer Training Camps" to individuals at athletic fields or parks under the Childcare / Summer Camp exemption (see XXVI in the current Health

Order <https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/66362/Full-Health-Order>).

County Health Officer, Dr. Chris Farnitano, stated on that call that as long as we are able to adhere to the conditions outlined in the orders, we would be able to provide these camps to our members in the community. I know guidelines have since been updated but to my knowledge we are not restricted in providing these types of camps.

I relayed this information to city officials, their lawyers reviewed the policies and for the past few weeks we've been able to put on camps for our members. Unfortunately, today, the City of Brentwood changed course and told us we could not use the fields for soccer camps - this is because of the County graphic attached. The City of Brentwood is allowing Baseball and other programs (even football) to resume but not Soccer, because Soccer is specifically listed on this graphic for some reason. Upon a closer look at the graphic - it actually says that youth sports are also not allowed (including soccer).

I believe this Graph has introduced some confusion and appreciate your help in

providing clarity. I believe the intent of the graphic is around not approving the return of Organized Youth Sports play (team vs. team etc...) at this time. However, based on what was communicated previously, it is not intended to restrict the type of camps we can offer to our youth as long as we can operate under current guidelines. Correct?

Appreciate your help on this,

Robert Garvin
Impact Soccer Club President

P.s. In regards to the Graphic, can somebody help me understand why Soccer is even mentioned on this list and why other sports are not mentioned (like football, baseball, rugby, basketball, etc...) Many other outdoor sports involve greater contact and use of shared equipment. Also, I am not sure how indoor facilities / activities are seen as "safer environments" vs activities that are played outdoors. I appreciate your help in providing clarity around this matter as well.

On Tue, May 12, 2020 at 6:59 PM Robert Garvin wrote:

Dear Supervisor Andersen, Supervisor Burgis & Supervisor Mitchoff,

My name is Robert Garvin and I am the **IMPACT** Soccer Club (EDYSL) President which is based out of the Brentwood/Oakley Area. I virtually attended the Board of Supervisors meeting that was held at 9:30 am this morning (May 12th) and voiced comments around meeting with you to find a safe, reasonable and accelerated path to resume outdoor activities.

Thank you for extending me the opportunity to speak during open comments and for directing me to attend the Ad Hoc Committee Meeting on COVID-19 Economic Impact and Recovery scheduled for 1:30 pm this coming Thursday (May 14th). I must apologize, as a follow-up to my comments, you had asked me to email you directly – unfortunately I was on my phone and unable to see who made this request, so I've directed this email to the three of you.

Founded in 1982, **IMPACT** is one of the oldest and most recognized Soccer Clubs in Contra Costa County. We are a non-profit organization that is largely made up of volunteers with a mission focused on providing a fun, safe, and rewarding soccer experience for everyone involved. We provide services to over 1,500 members of all ages and demographics and are one of many outdoor organizations in the area who are largely dependent on membership fees and availability / use of recreational areas.

Like **IMPACT**, many of the clubs/organizations in the area provide services which are all vital to the health and well-being of our community. We have all been significantly impacted by this COVID-19 pandemic.

I am reaching out because I am extremely concerned that if we don't find a way to

support resumption of outdoor activities quickly, many clubs/organizations will cease to exist, and this would be detrimental to our communities and the residents we all serve. I feel very strongly that we can safely resume outdoor activities and meet the County and State requirements for social distancing and hygiene. As an example, some safe guidelines would be as follows:

- **No Shared Equipment** - Players would bring and use their own ball, and gear.
- **No Shared Water** - There will be no sharing of water/sport drinks or use of drinking fountains.
- **No Physical Contact** - Outdoor training would be fitness and individual skills training in a 10x10 grid (1 player per grid).
- **Limited Attendance** - No spectators, parents would drop off and pick up in designated areas
- **Clear Paths Of Travel For Social Distancing** - We would have clear paths into and exiting the training facility that limit/eliminate player contact
- **Staggered Training Times** - All practices will be staggered to allow time for the departure of members prior to the next session
- **Access to Sinks & Bathrooms** – Ensure there are sinks and liquid disinfectant soap dispensers and establish clear paths of travel to provide adequate space for safe-distancing.
- **Access to Sanitation Supplies** – Ensure hygienic wipes are provided to our members, including access to disinfectant spray bottles and paper towels for extraordinary situations.
- **Monitoring, Enforcement & Reporting** - We will have a site leader present during all practice times to provide supervision and direction. We will continue to provide weekly emails to our members with updates on programs and directions for the following week. We will ask all of our members to voluntarily report a positive test for COVID-19 so that we may alert City and County officials as well as our community.

I am extremely confident we can partner with you and our local agencies to accelerate a “return to play” outdoors in a safe and secure manner. I would love the opportunity to speak with you further and answer any questions that you may have.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert Garvin
IMPACT Soccer Club President

<https://www.impactsoccer.org/>