



# Memo

**TO:** CIF SAN DIEGO SECTION PRINCIPALS/ ATHLETIC DIRECTORS

**FROM:** JOE HEINZ, COMMISSIONER  
TODD CASSEN, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

**SUBJECT:** CIF SAN DIEGO SECTION UPDATE

**DATE:** JANUARY 13, 2021

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San Diego Section Leaders:

We hope this message finds you well. In preparation for the return of high school sports in the San Diego Section, we wanted to provide an update on the timelines and process we will follow to officially open the athletic seasons for each of our sports over the next couple months.

In order to provide additional athletic opportunities for our student athletes, the San Diego Section has made the difficult decision to move the sport of Swim & Dive into our Season 1 schedule. This move was made based upon its Purple Tier Assignment that was provided with the updated Youth Sports Guidance released back on December 14, 2020. With Swim & Dive being assigned to the Purple Tier, and both Boys' & Girls' Water Polo being assigned to the Orange Tier, this move enables additional athletic opportunities for the student athletes of our section throughout the period in which our counties (Riverside, San Diego, Imperial) remain in the Purple, most restrictive tier.

Additionally, the CIF San Diego Section has selected the date of Monday, February 1, 2021 as the official date to begin practices for the permissible, Purple Tier sports scheduled in Season 1 (Cross Country and Swim & Dive).

Additional Information for Season 1 Sports:

Based upon the current Tier Assignments (set by the state), the remainder of Season 1 Sports (Badminton, Competitive Cheer, Field Hockey, Football, Girls' Volleyball, *Gymnastics*, Roller Hockey) will be able to officially open their seasons for practice once they reach the point in which their sport is within 1 Tier Level of their assigned Tier, where athletic competitions are permitted for the sport. The current guidance does not permit any competitions while a region is under the "Stay at Home" order.



## San Diego CIF Section: A Shared Vision for Education Based Athletics

As an example, Field Hockey would be able begin their season once the Southern California region is off the "Stay at Home" order yet continues in the Purple Tier. All of our sports in the Orange Tier, would be able to officially begin their season once the county of each member school's residence reaches the Red Tier.

**Even though the San Diego Section has chosen the date of February 1, 2021 to open the Seasons of Sport for Cross Country and Swim & Dive, each individual member school or district may elect to open their seasons at a later date.**

*\*Schedule for Gymnastics Season is under review.*

### **Season 2 Updates:**

**Purple Tier Sports (Golf, Tennis, Track & Field):** At this point all three sports will officially remain in Season 2 with the following start dates to open their seasons:

- Girls' Golf: **February 8<sup>th</sup>**
- Boys' Golf: **February 15<sup>th</sup>**
- Boys' & Girls' Co-Ed Tennis: **February 15<sup>th</sup>** (date moved up from February 22nd)
- Track & Field: **February 15<sup>th</sup>** (March 13<sup>th</sup> first competition)

### **Red Tier Sports (Baseball, Girls' Lacrosse, Softball):**

- Start Date of **March 13<sup>th</sup>**, contingent upon our counties remaining out of the "Stay at Home" order for the entire Southern California region.

### **Orange Tier Sports (Boys' Lacrosse, Boy's & Girls' Soccer, Boys' Volleyball\*, Boys' & Girls' Water Polo):**

- Boys' & Girls' Soccer: Scheduled start date of **February 22<sup>nd</sup>**. CIF-SDS will officially open their seasons once the county of residence reaches the Red Tier Level.
- Boys' Lacrosse, Boys' Volleyball, Boys' & Girls' Water Polo: Scheduled start date of March 13<sup>th</sup>, CIF-SDS will officially open their seasons once the county of residence reaches the Red Tier Level.

### **Yellow Tier: Sports (Boys' & Girls' Basketball, Competitive Sport Cheer, Boys' and Girls' Wrestling):**

- Scheduled start date of **March 13<sup>th</sup>**. CIF-SDS will officially open their seasons once the county of residence reaches the Orange Tier Level.

*\*Scheduled end date for Boys' Volleyball is currently under review.*



## San Diego CIF Section: A Shared Vision for Education Based Athletics

### **Reminders:**

1. All Teams may continue to follow the Out of Season guidance (CIF-SDS Bylaw 600.2 or CIF State Bylaw 501 G) as they await the opportunity to officially begin their season.
2. No athletic competitions can begin until the point the current "Stay at Home" order is lifted for the entire Southern California region.
3. Even when the San Diego Section has determined the official start date to open a Seasons of Sport, each individual member school or district may elect to open their seasons at a later date.
4. Student athletes may only participate in 1 Cohort (team) during the same time or season.
5. For additional information please review the Updated Youth Sports Guidance, released by the State of California Health Department back on December 14, 2020, please click below:

[California Department of Public Health, December 14, 2020](#)

We will be hosting a virtual Commissioners Access Meeting on Tuesday, January 19, 2021, 4:00 p.m., where we will review this information further and respond to any questions you may have moving forward. A meeting link will be sent closer to the meeting date of January 19<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you, and please do not hesitate to contact our office should you have any questions

Respectfully,

Joe Heinz

CIFSDS Commissioner