

March 21, 2020

Re: Newport Marathon 2020

After carefully considering the options for the May 30, 2020 race, we have decided there will not be a Newport Marathon this year. This would have been our 22<sup>nd</sup> running. We are sad to have to do this because this event means so much to our community. As a runner and marathoner, I understand the work you have put in and the anticipation that you all have and are going through. All of us on the race committee are heartbroken.

Due to the uncertainty of this virus and the limits that the city, county and state have put upon us to contain this disease, we feel that postponing to a later date this year is not an option. It has become clear that we need to look forward to 2021.

All registered participants for the Newport Marathon and Half will receive a deferral to the 2021 Newport Marathon and Half. You are automatically entered for next year's event set for June 5 of 2021, with no further action required on your part. We will send an email to all registered participants in January of 2021 to verify your participation so we can get an accurate number of shirts and medals to order, as well as have enough food and beer at the finish line.

The Newport Boosters are a local nonprofit group whose sole purpose is to raise money to fund our local middle school and high school sports and activities. This event brings in guests from all over the country and around the world. Not only is it good for local business, our student athletes get to see old and young adults still pursuing a sport they love. As a local entity, we make every effort to procure products and services locally. We have a No Refund policy in order to preserve our ability to pay our business partners for the year-round work that goes into planning and producing this event.

Please know that the many hours and miles you put into training for this event did not go to waste. Running and being outdoors bring us joy. Even though we won't be able to share this event with you this year, we are with you in spirit. As a running community, we will work through this disappointment of the race being postponed and set our goals to stay healthy and keep our communities healthy.

On May 30, we hope you put on your running or walking gear and get out and enjoy being active and continue the sport you love.

Thank you for all of your continued support during this time. We will be in touch throughout the coming months with emails and postings on our website. We look forward to standing on the edge of world on June 5, 2021, looking out across the Pacific Ocean, waiting for the gun to go off, shaking hands, (maybe fist bumping) with our fellow runner, in preparation for the running of the 2021 Newport Marathon and Half.

Tom Swinford - Race Director

Jo Wienert - Co-Race Director

Race Committee