



United Soccer League

September 1, 2021

To whom it may concern,

As President of the United Soccer League (USL), it is with great pleasure that I can provide this letter of endorsement for Orange County Soccer Club (OCSC) in support of the club's ability to successfully meet and exceed the requirements to manage the Championship Soccer Stadium at the Great Park facility in Orange County. OCSC has a long and successful history as a member club of the USL Championship. Over many years, club owner and CEO, James Keston along with his executive team and staff members have invested significant time, energy and capital into the club, its facilities, its youth and community programs through its mission to make Orange County a better place to live, work and play for all by harnessing the inclusive power of the global game of soccer.

It has been our pleasure to work with club owner and CEO, James Keston over many years. During his tenure, James has sat on numerous League committees including our Executive Committee of a select group of club owners tasked with advising high level league strategy. James has contributed greatly to the growth of our league by leading from the front, always striving to make his club an example across the league and by his commitment to the fans, the wider community, club, and league during the great challenge that the global pandemic has presented all of us. I have seen firsthand his passion for the community and his commitment to providing a first-class experience at the stadium.

The club have also led impressive efforts to grow the brand recognition of Orange County both nationally and internationally. Under the management of Director of Soccer Operations and GM, Oliver Wyss, the club has led the way in the USL in the development of international club relationships through an innovative partnership with Glasgow Rangers FC of the Scottish Premier League. This partnership offers the young and talented players in the OC region a chance to not only play professional soccer at home but also a route to train with and perhaps sign with one of the biggest clubs in Europe. Guided by James and Oliver, the club continues to invest in player development programs, coaching talent, and facility improvements to make sure the young players in OC have the best possible chance to represent their community at the professional level. That has resulted in several young players from the region making their professional debuts and some players even getting to move overseas. This cannot be understated as a benefit to the young and aspirational talent in the region as this was not an avenue for local players prior to James Keston and OCSC making this investment.

OCSC have hired a very talented management team to oversee the business and sporting operations of the club and have a track record of executing professional and entertaining events at the stadium. The club have consistently been a playoff team in the Championship, always putting a compelling and competitive team on the field for the fans to cheer on. The club has also seen



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strong and steady growth each season on the business operations with more fans attending matches and spending their time and hard-earned money at the stadium than ever before.

Like many of our other USL clubs who own their stadium or have management rights to a stadium, OCSC will be able to bring more events to the facility including international exhibition matches, women's professional soccer and other sporting and entertainment events. The club has already contributed greatly to the community, especially the young players in the region and great aspirations for the future of the club and for OC. I have no doubt that the awarding the management rights of the Championship Soccer Stadium to OCSC will best position the Great Park Development to be the go to destination for live outdoor entertainment in the region. Under the club's management and leadership, the stadium will drive significant revenue that sporting and other live entertainment and deliver significant economic benefits and job opportunities to the region.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jake Edwards', with a large, sweeping initial 'J'.

Jake Edwards
United Soccer League