



211 West Wacker Drive
Suite 1700
Chicago, Illinois 60606

toll free 800.331.2020
local 312.363.6001
fax 312.363.6052

preventblindness.org

January 2, 2013

Jim Thornton, MA, ATC, CES
President
National Athletic Trainers' Association
2952 Stemmons Freeway
Dallas, Texas 75247

Dear Mr. Thornton,

Prevent Blindness America (PBA) is proud to join the Youth Sports Safety Alliance and applauds the efforts of the National Athletic Trainers' Association to address youth sports safety in America. As the nation's leading volunteer eye health and safety organization dedicated to fighting blindness and saving sight, we are dedicated to reducing eye injury and vision loss that occur as a result of healthy involvement in sports.

An estimated 28,000 sports-related eye injuries are reported annually, including about 10,000 injuries for children age fourteen and under. Almost all of these injuries can be prevented through the use of proper protective eyewear and other safety gear. PBA engages in education and advocacy to ensure that parents, athletes, coaches, teachers and others know what they can do to prevent possibly devastating eye injury and looks forward to working with the Alliance to spread this message.

PBA wholeheartedly supports the Call to Action and is dedicated to ensuring that sports safety is a priority for every administrator, coach, parent and player. Thank you for inviting us to participate in the Alliance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hugh Parry". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Hugh Parry
President and CEO