

www.academylittleleague.org

April 30, 2020

Academy Little League Families,

On March 12, 2020 we suspended all league activities including games and practices as directed by our District 5 Little League leadership and later mandated by the State of Colorado. Shortly thereafter, Little League International came out with the same mandate. These actions were taken to ensure the safety of our players, families, and our community.

The Academy Little League Board of Directors (BOD) has continued to follow developments and have met regularly during these unique and trying times to assess the situation. The COVID-19 Pandemic has impacted our daily lives and will certainly have lasting effects.

Little League's direction has been that baseball operations are not to begin until May 11, 2020, at the earliest, and encouraged leagues to refrain from decisions and announcements on the 2020 season until an expected announcement from them the first week of May. Today, April 30, 2020, Little League announced that the regional tournaments and the Little League World Series are canceled for 2020. Further, they advised that leagues were to follow state guidance regarding potential regular season play. The delayed start to the Spring 2020 season presents many challenges to our league, including field resources and COVID-19 safety protocols for field sports that have not yet been developed.

Recent news has been encouraging, yet it is clear that we have a long way to go before we phase completely into a "new normal" life. Restricting group gatherings to 10 people or less, schools closed for the 2019-2020 year, and spring high school athletics cancelled are a few reminders that we are still working through the details to protect our communities.

Due to the ongoing uncertainty and our limited field resources after mid-May, the BOD has unanimously decided to cancel the 2020 baseball season. This decision was not made hastily as we have been discussing possible contingencies for the past several weeks. Delivering this message comes with heavy hearts as we miss baseball and miss our Academy Little League family.

The league has been in contact with the City of Colorado Springs and District 20 who have committed to full refunds for the unused fields. The BOD is determining the best method to issue refunds and will begin processing registration refunds soon. This will be a complex and lengthy process, however our goal is to move through it as quickly as possible. We have been contacted by a few families already who required a refund sooner than later due financial challenges in this tough environment. We are sensitive to this and please know that we will

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Academy Little League

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continue to try to make those refunds a priority to the best of our abilities. We thank all of you in advance for your patience.

Sponsors, we will have another letter coming out shortly to go through options. And coaches, we will be organizing a process to return league equipment in a safe and efficient manner. Please keep a look out for these upcoming communications.

We fully expect to have a 2021 Academy Little League baseball season and we look forward to seeing you all again, back where we belong, on the baseball fields of Colorado Springs!

The Academy Little League Board of Directors

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