

The 2020 Little League Season



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Below the text are five yellow silhouettes of baseball players in various action poses: a batter, a catcher, a pitcher, a fielder, and another batter.

What We Know – RI

Governor's statements

- Youth sports not allowed, for now

Phase II

- Social gatherings increase to 15 people
- Summer camps to open June 29

Phase III

- Social gatherings increase to 50 people



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What We Know – Little League



World Series
cancelled



Regional
Tournaments
cancelled



State
Tournament
likely to be
cancelled



District
Tournament
TBD



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SLL Approach to the Situation

- The Board has decided to not cancel the season
- If safe – and only if safe - committed to providing the kids a rewarding baseball experience
 - Full compliance with state and health guidelines
 - Safety drives all decision-making
- Situation changing weekly
- The League intends to work productively with the Town
 - Remain impartial and carefully consider all available information



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SLL Concerns – Safety First

- This year's season is no longer about playing baseball
- Kids' emotional well-being and mental health
- Kids are spending hours on computers for online learning
- Hours on video games
 - Primary form of socialization
- Unknown short and long-term effects of isolation
- Youth sports have an important role to play
- The League will abide by State guidelines with regard to youth sports



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SLL Response

- Play Ball Committee
 - Work began in February
 - Safety of players
 - Safety measures
 - What would a season look like?
 - Present proposal to Board
 - Present proposal to Town of Smithfield



What Will a Season Look Like? When?

- Will not be the traditional recreational season
- Likely to start with practices
- Same kids, same coaches
- No scrimmages or games
- Aggressive safety and disinfectant measures
- Only if parents are comfortable
- Safety will be at the center of all decisions made by the BOD



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Refunds

3 Options

- Refund
- Credit to Next Year's Registration Fee
- Donation



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Donation

- Donation to the league
 - Memento for all players
 - Scholarship Fund
 - Winter Clinics
 - Purchase additional raffle prizes
- A majority of BOD members have pledged to donate at least one registration per family
- Families will pay 2020 fees for 2021
- Families will receive five additional Calendar Raffle tickets for this year
- If organized baseball is played in the summer, player is eligible to play – no additional fee



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Credit for Next Year

- Locked-in at this year's rate
- Code provided for registration next year
- If organized baseball is played in the summer, player is eligible to play – no additional fee
- Only have to pay calendar raffle fee next year



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Full Refund

- Minus \$10 transaction fees & \$30 Calendar Raffle Fee
- Scholarship donations not included
- If registration fee increases next year, pay new fee
- If any form of organized baseball takes place, families will have to re-register- and pay - to play



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Deadline to Decide

- Families are asked to indicate their preference by June 2
- Google Form



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Hardships

- If families are experiencing a financial hardship, full refund will be applied
- Note hardship on form
 - Loss of employment
 - Reduction of hours
 - Furloughed
- Player still eligible to play if organized baseball takes place this summer



What's Next?

- Calendar Raffle to begin on June 1 with additional prizes
- Play Ball Committee
- Monitor situation
- Keep an eye on email and Facebook
- Talk to your kids about playing this year
- Get outside
 - Please stay off fields. LL-sanctioned activities (practices, games, etc.) will not take place until the state and town permit such.



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