Dear WALL members,

I hope this finds you all doing well and staying healthy during these unprecedented times. We are all ready to get back to a state of normalcy, and a big part of that normalcy this time of year is baseball and softball. Little League International has been working closely with national and local governments, along with local leagues in order to formulate plans to get back to that state of normalcy. This letter is meant to communicate our current state and also communicate a couple of notes for future state according to our knowledge as of the beginning of May 2020. You will also find some information from Little League International as well as the state of Pennsylvania.

The original plan prior to complete shutdown due to COVID-19 was to resume this season as of May 11th 2020. This was a mandate set by Little League International back in March. This brought our league progress to a halt as of that date of initiation right as teams were being formed and final preparations were being made to begin the season. We are now coming to understand that the original date of May 11th will not be our date of resumption. This decision is made in accordance with state of PA guidelines for reopening.

**Notes from Little League International**

Below you will find an official statement from Little League International, which can be found on the Little League website.

“We understand that many of our districts, leagues, volunteers, parents, and players want to get back to the Little League® field, and so do we, but our primary focus is on the safety and well-being of all of our members around the world.

Little League International will continue to monitor the progression of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) outbreak both in the United States and around the world and provide updates to its local leagues and districts, however, it is **highly encouraged that each league and district adheres to the guidelines set forth by their national, state/provincial, and local government and health officials in terms of public gatherings and sporting events when determining when it is safe to return to normal activities.** **Leagues should contact their local health authority for guidance prior to resuming any Little League activities.**

In the event that your league and/or community experiences a COVID-19 outbreak and/or is connected to a positive COVID-19 diagnosis of one of your participants, visit [LittleLeague.org/Coronavirus](https://www.littleleague.org/player-safety/coronavirus-update/) for additional information.”

**Notes from PA State Government**

Given our responsibilities to follow local and state guidelines to reopen we must adhere to those guidelines as they are announced. According to PA Secretary of Health, Dr. Rachel Levine, organized sports are not included in the state’s reopening plan until we are in the green phase. This was indicated during an announcement made Friday May 2nd. The reopening procedures as laid out in the state’s reopening plan will be done by county and in waves according to the type of operation to be reopened. Spectator sports are listed in wave 4, for reopening. This is to take place 10­+ weeks following commencement of official reopening procedure for a specific county. For example, according to the states reopening plan, Wayne county is set to begin reopening wave 1 categorized operations on May 4th 2020. This means spectator sports will not be able to commence prior to 10 weeks from the May 4th date. That gives WALL a general start date of July 13th 2020. This is an example of one county and is a very fluid situation, which could change week to week. We will continue to stay up to date on this as time progresses and offer updates as needed.

Given this information from the state the WALL Board of Directors is working to solidify a plan to initiate the 2020 baseball and softball season. This plan will include, field maintenance schedule to get the fields ready to play, the length of time we practice prior to games beginning, the length of season, and the logistics of ordering materials such as uniforms and the like. Once this plan is known in full, we will update you as needed.

There have been some that have requested refunds for this season’s fees for various reasons. We are working on honoring those requests as soon as possible. There has been some delay to this for many reasons and we sincerely apologize for that. However, these refunds should be awarded within the next two weeks. If anyone needs a refund for this season’s fees, please reach out to the league and we will accommodate. Due to the logistics of reassigning teams, if needed, and ordering uniforms along with other supplies **we must have your request for refund by May 31st 2020**. If you request a refund it can be given in two ways. Either you can receive a check from the league for your full fee amount or you can have the funds roll over to cover any costs associated with fees next season. Please let us know which you prefer upon request of any refund. If we do not hear from you then we will assume that you wish to participate this season when we are able to resume, and no refund will be offered after the May 31st deadline.

As we progress through this process of getting back to normal, we will keep you up to date on relevant information as it becomes available to us and as things change. We thank you for your commitment to WALL, Little League International and the kids they influence.

Sincerely,

WALL Board of Directors

