

# Cancellation of the Spring Season

Announcement; unfortunately, it's official



**Dear LBLL Community,**

We hope this email finds you well and in good health. While the following communication is a disappointment to have to express- we know the right decision has been made for our players and families. Tonight our 2020 Board of Directors voted to cancel the remainder of the Spring 2020 Long Beach Little League season. Below highlights some of the reasoning that led to the decision:

- Despite our best efforts to create a safety plan for our COVID "return to play" proposals, the City of Long Beach has indicated that Little League baseball will not be allowed this summer. We rely on the City to issue our permits to use the park for our organization and without their blessing we cannot take to the fields. We want the membership to know that every possible scenario was considered and closely monitored by our COVID task force (chaired by League Safety officer Bill Marshall) in attempts to resume play.
- Many of you might be wondering why some youth day camps are starting up- and we haven't been given the green light. While we felt our plan was solid and manageable it became apparent that the 6:1 ratio of player- to- adult wasn't able to work for LBLL. Additionally, the City indicated that we might not be able to resume play for as many as 60 days. In the end, with no guarantees of an actual return date (which could be best- case scenario mid- August and having us finish late September/early October) we did not feel that to be appropriate for our membership.

- Refunds have been a very complex discussion and the board has agreed to issue all registered players a partial refund for our incomplete season. We anticipate the amount to be communicated through your division VPs and ultimately team managers. Our website does not offer the ability to credit your account so individual checks will be sent to each manager to be dispersed accordingly. Please keep in mind that the league incurred the costs of: field maintenance (lighting & city permits), umpires, team photos, Opening Day, fundraising, uniforms, etc.

We want to thank you for your patience throughout these unprecedented times as we worked diligently to try and fulfill our dreams to return to play. In the event that we are granted permits for the Fall Ball season we will work with those teams that want to play as a unit (highest priority to Majors due to playing age 12 eligibility) and get them as close to resembling their Spring form. \* 12 year old families should look to their email for more specific communication as it develops.

Until we hear more information regarding a potential Fall season, we want to take this opportunity to express what a joy those few weeks were when the park was filled with smiling family members in the stands, dedicated volunteers in the dugouts, and of course our young athletes on the field. We will be back better than ever and anticipate more fabulous memories to be made in the future.

Until Then, One Team

- Your 2020 LBLL Board of Directors