

SRVLL 2020 Single A Survey

37
Total
Responses

37 Completed Responses

0 Partial Responses

90
Survey Visits

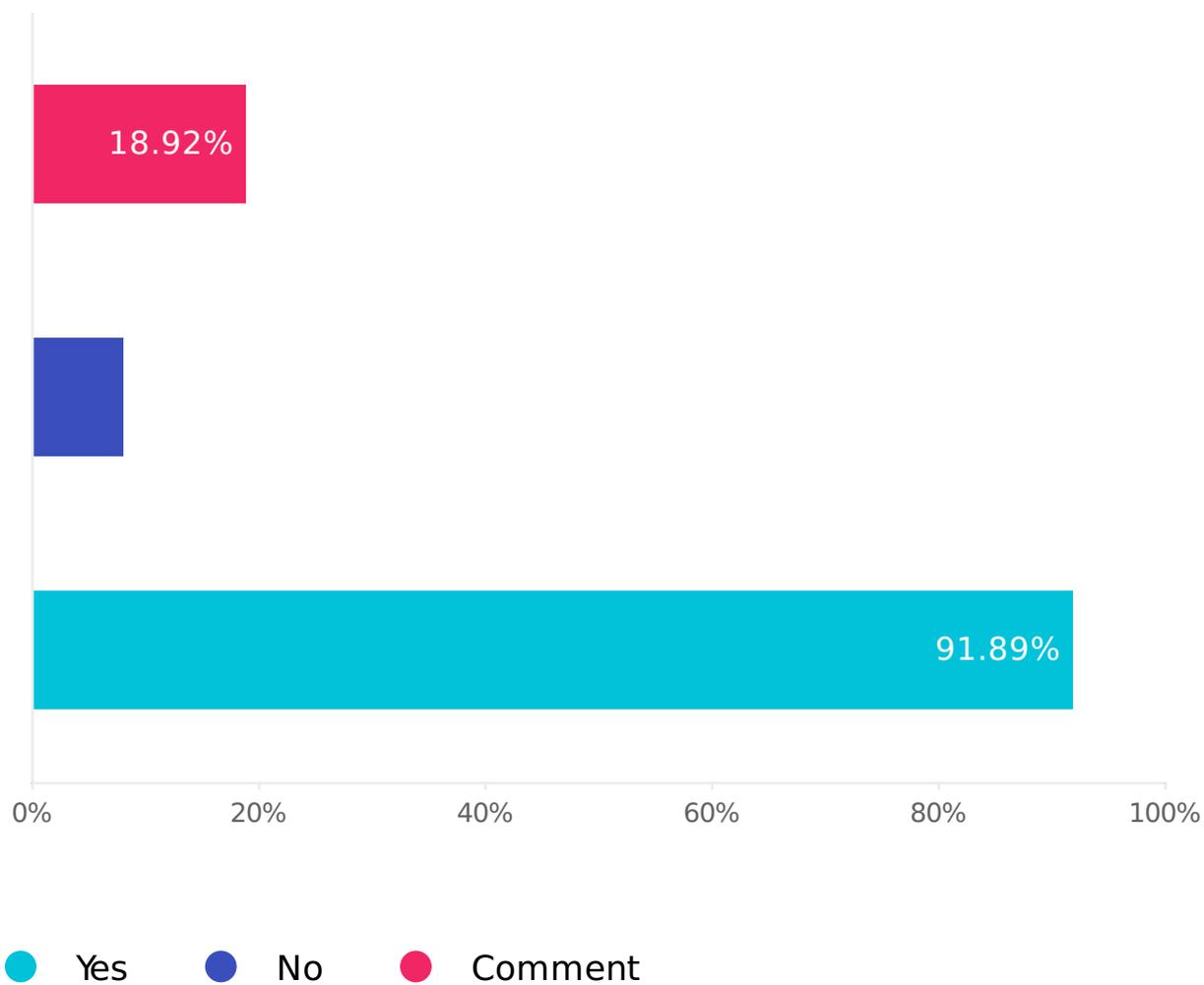
Q1

We are gathering feedback on the changes we have made for the Single A Division this year (2019). Please provide feedback on the following:

We introduced pitching machines this year to help players become more confident hitters and to help get more balls "in play" so defensive positions could be more active in games. We also focused on training players on how to pitch but chose to remove "kid pitch" games from this division to make sure games did not slow down.

1) Do you feel that pitching machines helped your player in their hitting development?

Answered: 37 Skipped: 0



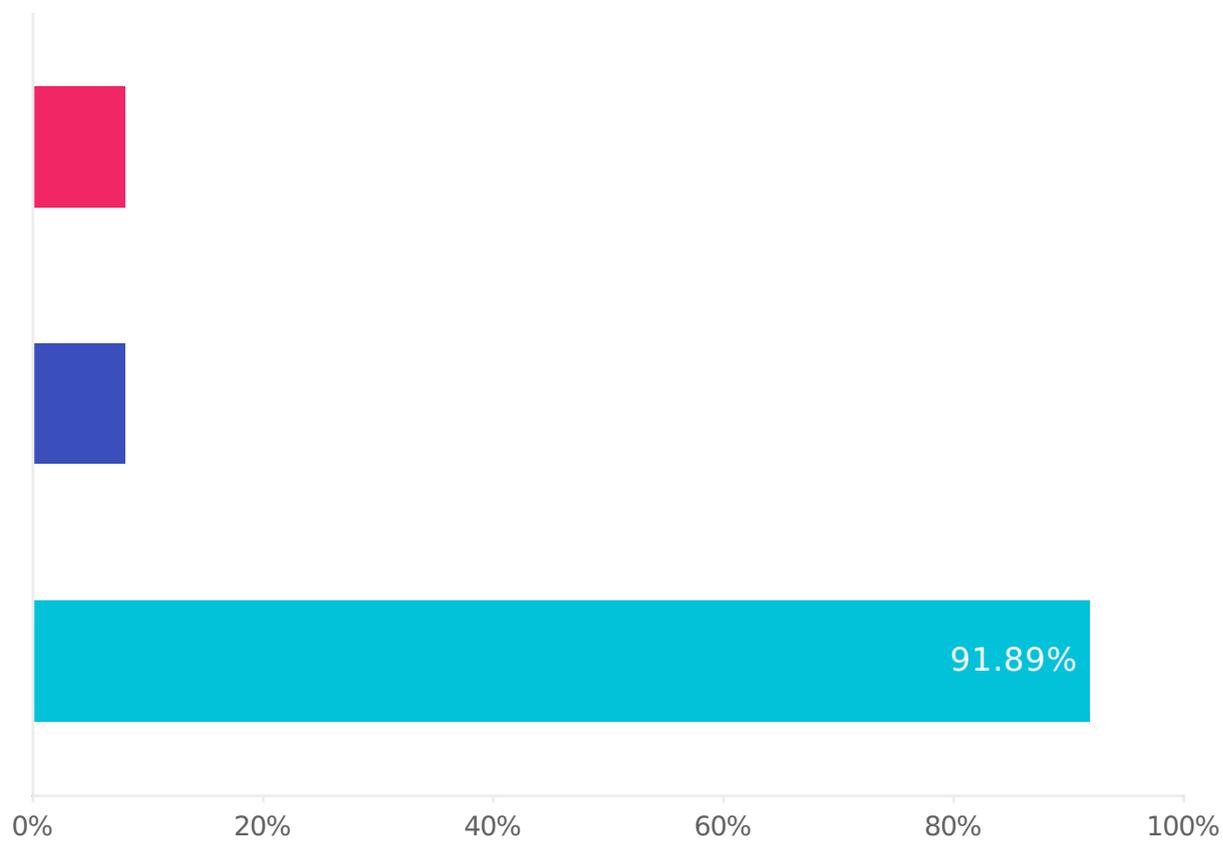
Choices	Response percent	Response count
Yes	91.89%	34
No	8.11%	3
Comment	18.92%	7

1. Keeping the machines stable was a struggle
 2. Absolutely. This was an unqualified success.
 3. But but then there was no attention paid to starting to teach the boys to pitch
 4. YES! I thought it was great. 6 Pitches than in corp 3 strikes, I saw some team give their kids get extra pitches in the beginning (>6) and I thought it hurt their development
 5. Pitching machines were a nice progression from coach pitch and leading into kid pitch.
 6. Adding sandbags helped stability of the machines
 7. It's good to a point. They need to learn to see, adjust and hit to balls coming from a hand delivering. It certainly helped pace of play but I did not notice a change in improvement in overall hitting.
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Q2

2) Do you feel that pitching machines have allowed for more balls to be put into play, giving defensive players more opportunities to be active in games?

Answered: 37 Skipped: 0



● Yes ● No ● Comments

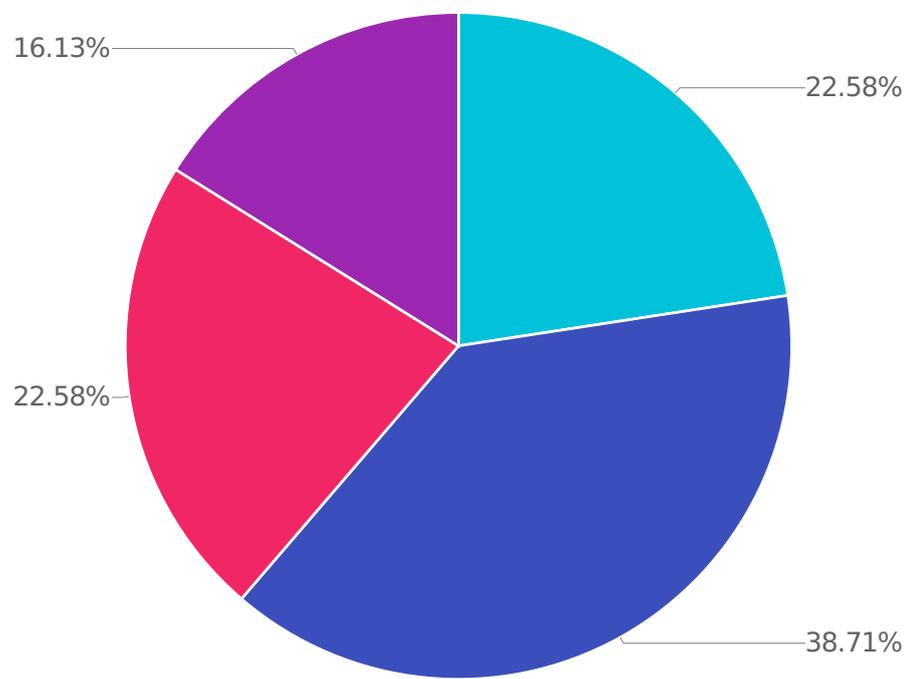
Choices	Response percent	Response count
Yes	91.89%	34
No	8.11%	3
Comments	8.11%	3

1. and actually playing 3 outs or 5 run was great
 2. YES! talk to another Dad where kids pitch at this age and it sounded awful. They rare got in more than 4 innings
 3. I'm assuming this is the case compared to kid pitch.
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Q3

3) How would you rate the pitching training provided this year?

Answered: 31 Skipped: 6



● 1 ● 2 ● 3 ● 4

Rating	Response percent	Response count
1 (Poor)	22.58%	7
2	38.71%	12
3	22.58%	7
4 (Great)	16.13%	5

Average rating: 2.32

4) What other suggestions do you have for improving the Single A division?

Answered: 19 Skipped: 18

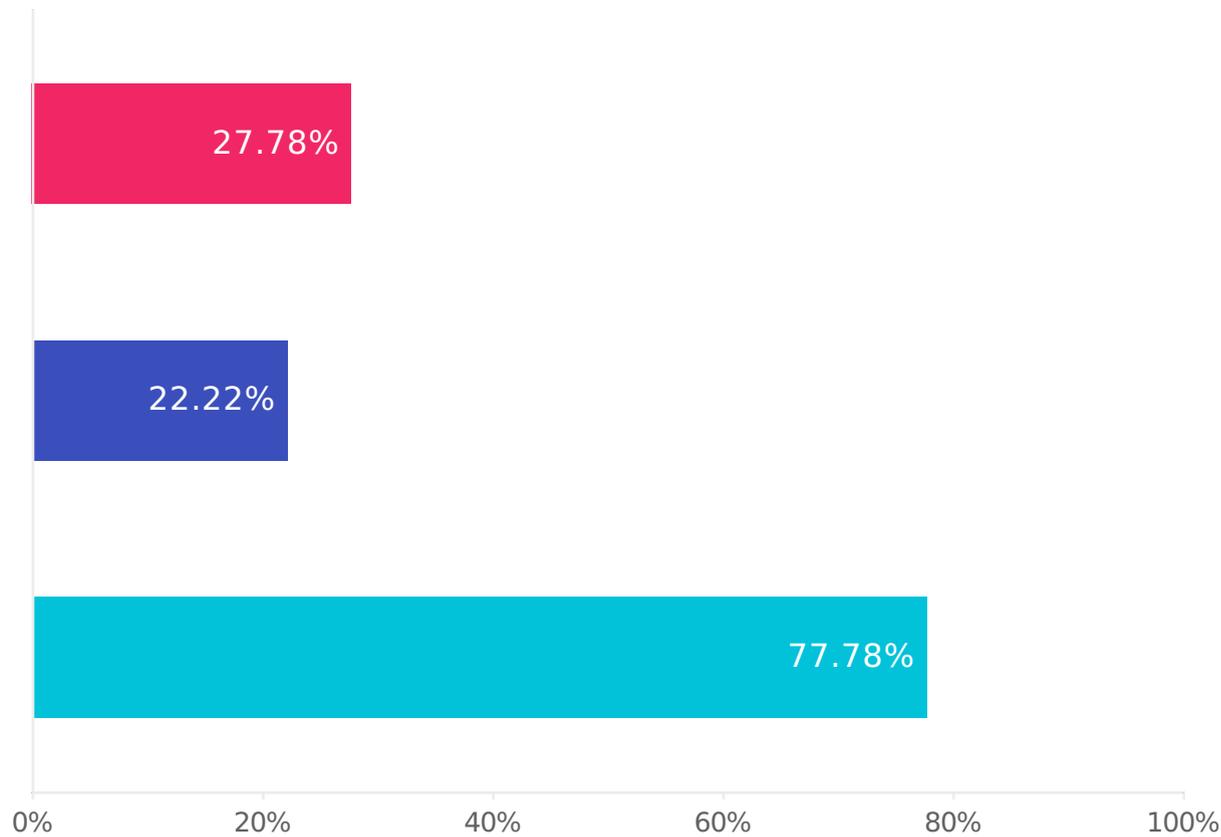
1. This year there was too much talent concentrated on a couple teams. Please create enough teams for all 3rd graders to play AA. 9 yr. old is too young to get kicked out of baseball.
2. get a better machine. it was way to inconsistent and kids were just swinging at everything because of the pitch limit.
3. There were stacked teams
4. Have a draft to equalize competition. Better field location, Rancho is cramped with dangerous lip and outfield. Play a longer season, if we went to mid-June we could have practices on infields not just blacktop or outfields.
5. Each team needs a lot of parental support. Pre-game, someone has to do field prep, three coaches run three of EJ's drills - that's four people right there in the 30 min before the game. Then during the game, it's vital - and this should be emphasized - that the dugouts are controlled. Kids need to not be chewing gum, have their siblings on the bench, have other parents on the bench playing with their phones - the kids need to be ready for their next at bat and know what position they will be in. We had a "dugout mom/dad" who was awesome at this. This expectation needs to be set, and this should be a role.
6. good overall this year and the rain was a minor distraction.
7. All teams need to follow the same rules when playing games. There should be consequences for coaches that are not following the rules, including using illegal bats. This puts all the kids safety in jeopardy and does not promote a fun, learning environment at this level of play. There is a time & place to be competitive and it is not worth risking injury to the players. Also, greater attention should be given to the distribution of age/grade level of players across the teams. There should be the same mean/average age for each team to make for a more level playing field. At this level of play, it's important for keeping the players motivated and encouraging them to stick with the game and to play in the next season of Little League.
8. Not much, although there was one super dominant team of large older kids(1-9 hitters all cleanup type bats) that just destroyed the league. Was pretty demoralizing for the kids. If there was live pitching it would've been even worse, especially for the tiny guys.
9. I like the 5 run max per inning rule better than just 8 max hitters. Kids seem more engaged to what was happening
10. Stick with the same fields
11. Needed more pitching training for next year in AA.
12. The league should do pitching machine in the first half of the season and kid pitch in the later half like 2018 season. Otherwise, the kids have no experience in pitching when they try out for AA and play AA next year.
13. Use the rules in effect during the playoffs, with exception of the 3-strike rule. I also suggest having parents fill out a general form of skill level so that teams are more evenly matched. For teams that have a bunch of not so good players, they can get kind of demoralized.
14. extend it a little longer and give more field practice time instead of so much time on the blacktop.
15. I saw some inconsistencies in player abilities in both the Rookie and A divisions as a result of the loss of the Farm division. It does make sense to eliminate the Farm level with fewer players in the league, however, I think the league should come up with a set of benchmarks within each division players should have at the start of each season and what skills they should be working to achieve by the end of the season. At Rookie some 1st grade teams were WAY too advanced and would have fit well within the A division and vice versa with some (but fewer) 1st graders in the A division.

16. Ensure that every team has the same number of 7, 8, and 9 year olds. The teams which had too many 7 year olds were at a severe disadvantage which isn't good for team morale.
 17. Thought the format kept the game engaging and fun for all positions with machine pitch.
 18. Incorporate a few more practices where 1 team can utilize the whole field rather than practices on a shared black top at the start of the season.
 19. There needs to be consistency/regulation of bat barrel sizes. I was surprised to see that 2-5/8 and 2-3/4 in barrels were allowed to be used at this level. There was noticeable difference in the ball travel/trajectory/velocity for kids that were able to actually swing the bigger barrel bats. And typically it was the older kids (9 year olds) who were able to do so, and in turn putting teams with more younger kids at slight disadvantage. There was no regulation or questioning of these bats being used, but in the past there have been. There's needs to be a rule, preferably to ban them at this level.
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Q5

5) For 2020, we are considering having the first few games of THE AA DIVISION start with pitching machines. The goal of this is to allow for additional pitching and hitting training prior to moving to player pitch. Are you in favor of this?

Answered: 36 Skipped: 1



● I support this idea ● I do not like this idea ● Comments

Choices	Response percent	Response count
I support this idea	77.78%	28
I do not like this idea	22.22%	8
Comments	27.78%	10

1. Just play baseball how its supposed to be played. Its ok that some kids will suck more than others. Its about having consistent practices with consistent coaching.
2. By this level, pitchers need to learn how to pitch and batters need to start distinguishing between balls and strikes. At this level, the kids should be learning how to play by actual baseball rules.
3. I think you have to either not do it or do it for half the season. Timing the pitching machine takes some practice and no point for just a few games. I'm more in favor of just starting the kid pitch from the beginning.
4. I guess so. Will there be work on pitching?

5. I feel the progression will help them adjust
 6. Love the idea
 7. I think AA could benefit from the pitching machine for the first half of the season (or longer)
 8. I'm not sure. I think generally switching in such a big way mid-season is not good. I think it would be better to make sure there is opportunity to give kids sufficient practice hitting...off a pitching machine.
 9. I think you have to as a natural transition since they didn't have an opportunity for any kid pitch.
 10. I don't believe some of the younger players are ready for player pitch (to either perform or bat against). As an introductory level, there will be too much inconsistency with players pitching to make it a good learning environment.
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