

Rancho Penasquitos Little League Fall Ball Community Fall Ball Meeting

August 5, 2020



Agenda

- Introduction - Ben Airth
- Plan to move forward with Fall Ball
- RPLL goals for Fall Ball
- Background on the creation of the District 32 and RPLL Local Rules documents
- Key processes and rules - District 32 Safety Plan
- Key processes and rules - RPLL Local Rules
- Q&A



Introduction

- Ben Airth - RPLL President
- Stephen Smythe - RPLL Safety Officer



Plan to Move Forward with Fall Ball

- Practice only until (if) games are approved
 - Best way to get our kids back on the field and being active again
- Anticipated start date for practices - 8/30
 - Up to two practices per week
 - One practice during the week and one on Sunday
- RPLL has created an option for those players who have registered that wish to not practice but only play games
 - We will hold your spot for when games start and you will be placed on a team



RPLL Goals for Fall Ball

- Provide a **safe, fun environment** for kids to enjoy the game, get exercise, and socialize
 - May not include games
- There are a lot of new rules and procedures in the name of safety
 - Asking our players, volunteers and spectators to **do the best they can** following the new guidance
- Provide **transparency and open communication** related to safety before and during the Fall Ball season



Background on Document Creation

- Stephen, with input from the RPLL Board, created a return to play safety plan for RPLL and shared with District 32
 - Researched reopening by other leagues and youth sports across the country
 - Ensure adherence with CDC, State and County guidelines
 - Consulted with local ER Doctor
- This document became the baseline for the District 32 plan
 - Stephen part of a District committee who developed the District's plan which was then approved by League Presidents



Background on Document Creation

- District 32 plan **at this time** is specific to the Juniors division
 - Since this is many of the Juniors players last year of Little League, Juniors are practicing and hoping to play games when authorized by the County
 - Revised District plan will be created before Fall Ball games begin
- District plan ensures consistency with how member league's are safely reopening
 - Important for interleague games



District 32 Safety Plan - Covid-19

- No spitting
- Games will be scheduled with extra time between games to reduce crowds
- Player drop off before games - no earlier than 40 minutes before game time
- No sharing of equipment
 - Bats, helmets, gloves
 - Players bags with their equipment will be kept under their seat
- All volunteers that are on the field will **wear a face covering/mask at all times**
- All players will wear a face covering/mask when in the dugout
 - Optional when they are playing defense/offense - this is **solely** determined by the players guardian



District 32 Safety Plan - Covid-19

- Players will depart the field area within 5 minutes of their game ending
 - No team cheers, huddles or snacks
- No handshakes or personal contact celebrations allowed
- The Pledge of Allegiance and Little League Pledge will be recited with players reciting both from their spot in the dugout
- Catcher's masks will not be shared during a game
- Defensive team will have their own set of game balls each game
- In addition to the manager and coaches, one team Safety Parent will be allowed in the dugout area to assist with safety protocols
- The home plate umpire will be located behind the pitcher's mound



District 32 Safety Plan - Covid-19 - Practices

- Players will be submitted to a health screening upon arrival
- Hand sanitizer breaks at least every 30 minutes
 - Players are asked to bring their own, but RPLL will provide as needed
- Dugouts will not be used
 - Player bags will be placed down the lines, 6 feet apart
- No sharing of equipment to include bats, helmets and gloves
- Teams will sanitized all shared items after their practice if another team will be using the field afterwards
 - Shared items include: pitching machines, gates, portable screens, etc.



RPLL Local Rules - Covid-19

- No players playing the position of catcher below AA
- Players can use league-provided catchers gear, but it must be returned after each game for sanitizing
 - No sharing of catcher's masks in game
- We will **not be using the dugouts** in Fall Ball
 - Each player needs to bring their own chair for every game
 - The team's manager will place the chair outside the dugout upon player arrival which will be the players dugout location for that game
- The area behind the dugouts and backstop will be taped off so that only players and on field volunteers are permitted
 - Spectator seating map will be provided before games begin



RPLL Local Rules - Covid-19

- Each game will have a Board Member present to help coordinate and address any issues
 - Look for the red and black polo shirts
 - The Board Member will not be an on field volunteer for the game that is being played
- Players and on field volunteers should retrieve all baseballs that go out of play



RPLL Local Rules - Covid-19

The Rancho Penasquitos Little League Executive Board will review repeat violators or blatant violations of the rules contained in this and the District document by players, volunteers or spectators on a case by case basis. Consequences can include suspension.



Questions & Answers

- Reach out any time with any questions:
 - Ben Airth - ben@rpll.org
 - Stephen Smythe = stephen@rpll.org
- All safety documents can be found at RPLL.org
 - Click on the 'Safety' tab

