

# Rancho Penasquitos Little League

## Spring 2021 Community Meeting

November 2, 2020



# Agenda

- Introduction - Ben Airth
- Review of Fall season
- Current state guidelines
- Plan to move forward with the Spring season
- RPLL goals for the Spring season
- RPLL costs for the Spring season
- 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



# Review of Fall Ball Season

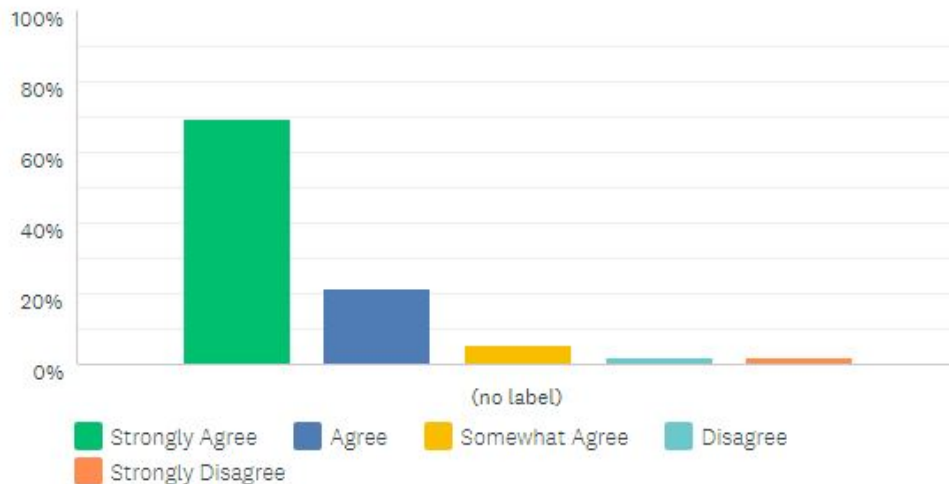
- Practice only - twice a week
- Most teams routinely scrimmaged among themselves
- Managers, players and families did an excellent job of adhering to the new safety precautions
- Overwhelmingly positive feedback from the RPLL Community



# Review of Fall Ball Season

The league provided the safety resources (sanitizer, thermometers, safety plan) needed to safely practice during the Fall season.

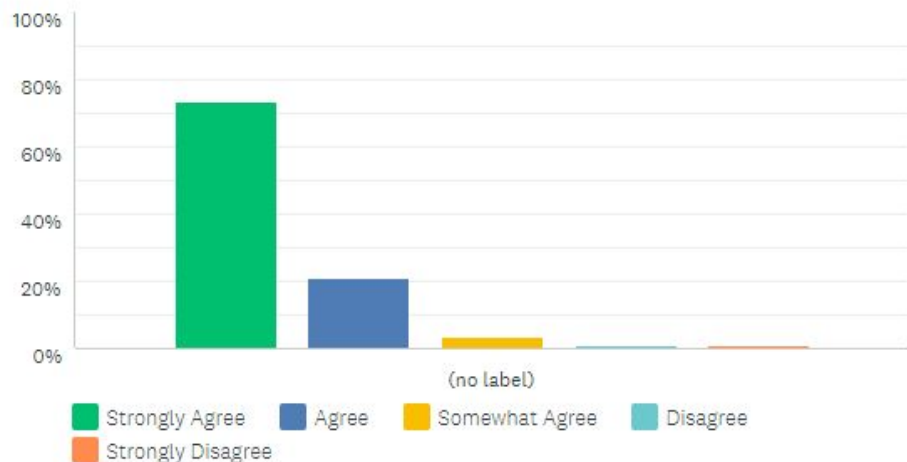
Answered: 111 Skipped: 0



# Review of Fall Ball Season

The volunteers (Managers and Coaches) that facilitated practices did a good job of following the league safety protocol.

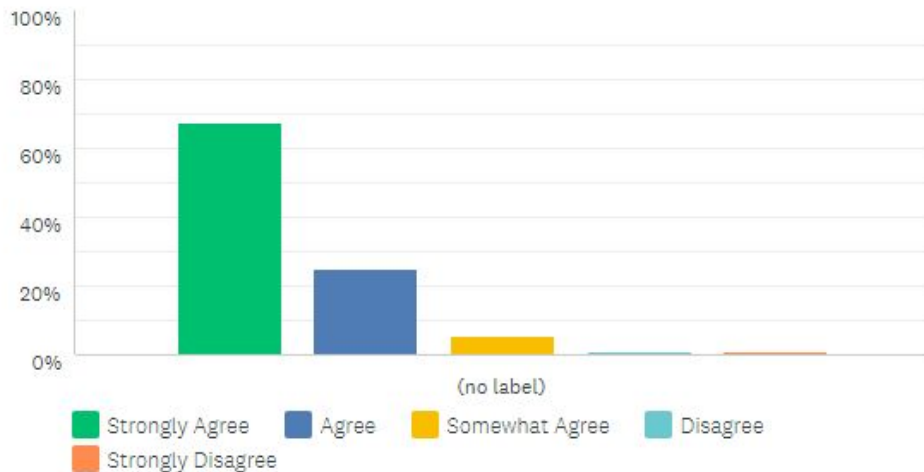
Answered: 110 Skipped: 1



# Review of Fall Ball Season

At no time did I feel my players safety was compromised during the Fall season.

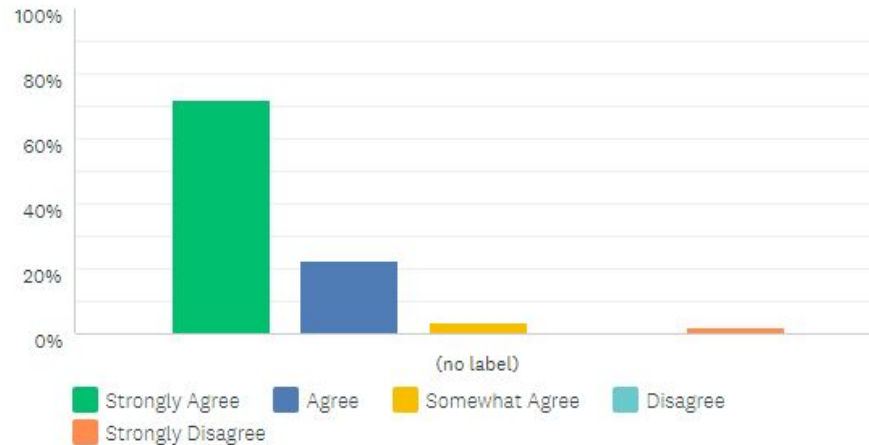
Answered: 111 Skipped: 0



# Review of Fall Ball Season

I would feel comfortable allowing my player(s) to play in the Spring following the same league protocol as the Fall.

Answered: 111 Skipped: 0

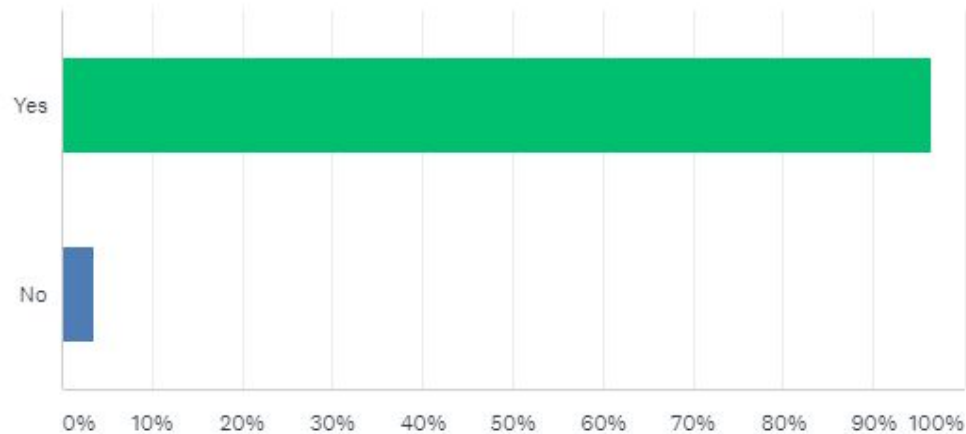




# Review of Fall Ball Season

Do you plan to sign your player(s) up for the Spring, 2021 season?

Answered: 110 Skipped: 3



# Current State Guidelines

The following apply to all of California and all youth sports

- Youth sports may only practice with a group of no more than 14 “cohorts” (players)
- This means teams cannot scrimmage each other
- This means no games
- The state has not given any guidance as to when youth teams can have activities outside their cohorts
- Important - **RPLL is and will continue to follow all state guidance**



# Plan to Move Forward with Spring Season

- Practice only until (if) games are approved
  - Best way to get our kids back on the field and being active again
- Expecting season to follow standard timeframe
  - Tryouts for Minor B and above in January
  - Teams formed and practice begins in February
  - Opening Day first weekend of March
  - Up to two practices per week - one weekday, one Saturday
  - RPLL is flexible and this may change



# RPLL Goals for Spring Season

- 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 Spring season



# RPLL Costs for Spring Season

- RPLL is 100% run by volunteers
- Costs for the Spring not including game play includes:
  - Field permits and other City of San Diego fees
  - Lights
  - Field prep
  - Uniforms
  - League Charter
  - Insurance
  - Volunteer background checks
  - More!
- Costs if games are played include:
  - Umpires
  - Game day field prep
  - TOC tournament dues



# 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 during the summer
  - 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 were 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
- The District plan **will be updated before any games** are authorized



# 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 if dugouts are used
  - 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
  - RPLL using touchless thermometers
- 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 sanitize 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 may **not use the dugouts** for games if approved
  - 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

- Board Member present at practices to help enforce and educate safety rules



# 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](mailto:ben@rpll.org)
  - Stephen Smythe = [stephen@rpll.org](mailto:stephen@rpll.org)
- All safety documents can be found at RPLL.org
  - Click on the 'Safety' tab

