



Greetings from SNLL,

We hope you and your families have been doing well during these last few months. It's hard to think that by now we would have completed a full season, enjoyed our end of season picnic together, and started preparing for all-stars. How crazy it feels to know this was all upended just as we were starting to play our first games.

Recently, the County of San Diego released guidelines to allow for youth day camps / youth sports conditioning camps which allows groups of up to twelve players to practice and run drills albeit with heavy restrictions. The groups would have to maintain strict safety protocols, not be allowed to mingle with other groups, and practice with no guarantee or timeline of being able to play games. Some leagues are using these guidelines to return their spring teams to the field with the hope games will be allowed by late June, playing in July and ending their seasons August 1st; creating a possible one-month season at best.

After heavily weighing our options, our Board of Directors have decided we do not feel this is the best direction for us or our members. We cannot offer you a guarantee we will play games and because of this, we have decided to officially cancel the Spring 2020 season and look forward to Fall-Ball and Spring 2021.

To answer the question most may have on their mind right now – unfortunately we will not be offering a refund on fees paid for the spring season. Our biggest concern has to be making sure Santana National is financially secure to provide our children with the ability to play quality Little League baseball in the spring of 2021 and beyond.

As we are a non-profit organization run by volunteers that are replaced every year, maintaining financial health is of utmost importance. We need to set the next Board of Directors up for success by making sure the funds are there to begin the next season and the assurance that taking care of any capital improvements or maintenance in the offseason won't jeopardize the organization.

Each season has operating costs and expenses starting before we take a single registration fee. From November 1, 2019 and leading up to the shutdown, the league had spent over \$30,000 in expenses to get the spring season started. Registration alone does not cover those costs (\$26,840 in registration fees). This is why we fundraise and ask local businesses for sponsorships. This year we raised almost \$11,000 which helps to cover operating costs and helps to sustain us through the season. During the season, our snack bar proceeds helps to pay for utilities such as our lights on the majors and teen division fields, replenishing baseballs and field maintenance supplies, offsets some expenses fielding all-star teams, and sets us up financially for the next season. This year however, we will not be allowed to open our snack bar under the State guidelines. As a result, any additional expenses we incur will not be replenished before next spring when we start to bring in more registration fees. This may leave SNLL in a financial predicament where the ability to take care of small items will turn into difficult decisions for the next Board of Directors. We want to do our best to keep our registration costs low and still provide our children the best playing experience possible.

Knowing these decisions may come as a disappointment especially for those players who were looking forward to playing this summer, we have a few options that we feel are appropriate given the uncertainty of the situation:

1. SUMMER CLINICS - The league and some of our awesome volunteer managers and coaches would like to offer our players free summer baseball clinics. We would form groups consisting of up to 12 players that would meet at least weekly to run clinic-style drills and practices. The players will get small-group

instruction and may have the benefit of scrimmage games with other groups if the health order allows it. If you are interested in signing up, please follow the link posted on our web page (santanational.com) and register soon. We hope to begin our clinics by June 22nd.

2. NO-COST FALL-BALL – If the health order allows games by September, we feel we have enough supplies that we could offer no-cost Fall-Ball registration for those who participated in the spring season this year. Fall-Ball is instructional baseball where teams play weekly games with other leagues in our district. There may be the opportunity of tournaments as well. More information will be sent out next month on when registration will open.
3. TEMPORARY PLACEMENT WITH ANOTHER LEAGUE – We know some players still wish to play games this summer in a structured season setting. As previously stated, there are other leagues in our district who are attempting to resume their spring seasons. These leagues may have teams with players who are unable to continue playing in the summer creating a need for filling rosters. In order to try and take advantage of this option, you need to reach out to us ASAP (santanational.ll@gmail.com) so we can take your request to our District Administrator and she will attempt to place your player with another league just for this summer. You will still need to register with SNLL in the spring if you remain in our boundaries. Again, this is not a guaranteed option as there may not be any spots available.

As disappointed as we all are with losing the opportunity to play Spring baseball this year and all that goes along with it, we are excited and grateful to our awesome volunteers for these options they are making available; especially the summer clinics. We don't exist without our volunteers and we want to thank each and every one of them for all that they do. We also want to thank all of our sponsors this year for sticking by us through this uncertain time. We ask that our all members help support them when you can with your business.

One last thank you and shout-out to all the parents and players who were so patient and understanding. We can't wait to see you back on the field and in the stands!

Sincerest Regards,

Santana National Little League Board of Directors