



5/6/2020

Hello HYAA Families,

We hope you are staying healthy and making the best of your continued stay at home conditions. As an effort to keep you informed on where baseball and softball activity stands at this time, we are providing our latest known updates and survey results.

We had 68% of our baseball families (122 responses) respond to our survey. Of these responses, 92% of families have indicated they would likely play if allowed by the state and can do so safely.

We had 66% of our softball families (66 responses) respond to our survey. Of these responses, 83% of families have indicated they would likely play if allowed by the state and can do so safely.

This survey was simply an initial step to determine if our HYAA families have a desire to play this season and to learn of your questions and concerns and will not change your child's registration. If there is a season, all parents will be required to confirm that their child will participate. We received a lot of positive feedback along with many questions. All comments and questions received had already been discussed by the board, some resolved, but many are still pending at this time. As board members and parents, it is encouraging to see we are on the same page with our concerns and the importance of placing the safety of our children first.

As referenced in the email last week, a collaboration of state baseball and softball associations has been organized and they have created a proposal '2020 Back to the Diamond' safety guidelines along with a potential timeline. A proposal was sent to state and local officials late last week to help guide their decision-making process regarding the summer youth sports season. This proposal is now available to the public and we will post a draft of the proposal on the HYAA website <https://www.hyaa.info/>. Please note this is only a draft and the actual guidelines may be different, but it will give you a sense of what to expect if there is a season. There are still many questions and policies that need to be addressed, such as what happens if a player or family member of a team tests positive for COVID-19. We wish we had more concrete information to share but at this point, find ourselves in a reactive mode where we have to shift to accommodate the latest dates and information put out by the Governor. We hope to have a resolution regarding the season soon.

We would like to give more information about a few items commonly mentioned in the survey.

REFUNDS - HYAA will be issuing full refunds if we do not have a season. Likewise, if we have a season and a family chooses not to participate, we will also be issuing full refunds. If we have a season that is shortened, our intent is to provide pro-rated refunds. If you have already decided that your child will not play, please contact HYAA immediately so we are aware of changing numbers and to issue the refund.

UNIFORMS – Softball uniforms have been ordered and are ready to go. If there is no season, these uniforms will be used for Fall Softball.

Baseball uniform pants and hats have been ordered and received and we should have sizes available to accommodate each player. It was a requirement for the 2020 season for each family to purchase new ‘blue jerseys’ as the previous style and brand was no longer available. The ‘blue jersey’ will need to be ordered by the families and we have online ordering set up and ready to deploy as soon as we have confirmation of a season. We have been told the turn around will be quick but we may need to try to make do initially. The board had previously decided that the ‘gray jersey’ will not be ordered/used this summer due to the amount of time needed to receive once ordered. If all members of a team have a gray jersey from previous years, they will be permitted to wear them. If needed, HYAA still has the retired blue jerseys from several years ago and will distribute as needed to teams until new jerseys arrive.

DIBS – Once a decision about the season is made, the board will assess DIBS requirements and make adjustments as needed. DIBS hours support the HYAA hosted baseball and softball tournaments which serve as our main fundraisers. If HYAA is still able to host tournaments there will be required volunteer hours to make them a success.

Equipment – Please be prepared to provide your child with their own helmet and batting gloves. Items will not be allowed to be shared this season. Please contact HYAA if it is a hardship to provide a helmet for your child. It will be best if your child has their own bat this season.

We know this letter has left many questions unanswered. We are being as transparent as possible throughout this process and are providing updates and information as soon as it is available to us. We ask that you do not contact your level director at this time with any further questions. They are very busy planning for multiple contingencies and do not have more information than what is already included in this letter. We will provide updates as soon as any decisions are made.

Thank you for your understanding as we work through this. We all have a desire to be at the ballpark. We miss the sense of community, we miss our baseball and softball families, and we miss watching our kids play. Until we can safely return to the field, we wish you the best.

The HYAA Board