

Hello Parents,

On July 14, the KYB board of directors voted to end our sanctioning of our Little League (9-12) program. Although it wasn't an easy decision, it was made after serious consideration and hours of discussion. There are bound to be some questions regarding the decision, and what it means for your son/daughter in our program. This is intended to help clarify some of the more common questions you may have. If you have any further questions, or specific questions pertaining to your son/daughter, please feel free to contact your league coordinator, travel director, or myself.

Why was this change made:

There were many factors considered, and too many to list here, but the most impactful reasons were:

- A growing number of parents / players requesting the opportunity to play with their classmates. Note that this change will not clear this up 100%, but options will be given to players to choose their current progression in leagues, or to drop back and repeat a season. More on that below.
- Provide more certainty regarding our league and travel schedules.
- Reduce the amount of burdensome paperwork encountered by the league as well as parents for those players that play on district teams.
- Reduce the level of commitment that is needed (by players, parents, and coaches) playing in these district and state games.
- The greater good of the program versus the opportunity for the portion that play on the district teams.

FAQ's:

- How will this affect scheduling of the leagues?
  - There will be very little change to league schedules. Our early start to the 9-12 season is based more upon field availability than the Little League sanctioning. It is anticipated that our 9-12 seasons, and all others (7/8, 5/6, etc) will be similar to this year and previous years.
- How will this affect my son's/daughter's league eligibility?
  - In addition to discontinuing Little League sanctioning, it was also voted to change our age cut off date from August 31<sup>st</sup> to a more widely used May 1<sup>st</sup> cut off. This change will not affect any player with a birthdate between September 1 and April 30.
  - Players with birthdays between May 1 and August 31 will be repeating a league year. For instance, a June 14, 2009 birthday – that player was a 12 year old in the 11/12 league this year. In 2022, they will once again be a 12 year old in the 11/12 league.
    - However, there is a caveat to this. **As a board, we are recommending that players with summer birthdays play with their grade.** That could mean "repeating" a league as stated above, or it could mean continuing onto the next league. In the example above (6/14/09 birthdate), if that player is going into 7<sup>th</sup>

grade, KYB strongly recommends the player move on to the 13/14 league. Note that if the player does not move onto 13/14 in that scenario, at some point they will be forced to skip an “age” of baseball due to grade distinctions (not age) once players are in high school.

- How will this affect fees?
  - Fees will not be affected by this change.
- How will this affect league rules for baseball.
  - League rules for 9-12 baseball may be modified slightly, but it was widely agreed upon that KYB will largely continue to follow rules as laid out by Little League, including pitching restrictions and bat restrictions.
  - This change will not affect the league rules for any other league (5/6, 7/8, or 13/14).
- What does this mean for travel baseball players?
  - The only change for travel baseball players is regarding the age cut off. Over the past 2 years, KYB has worked through requests for players to play with their grade. Once again, **KYB strongly encourages players to play with their grade.** This may mean repeating a travel season, or continuing onto the next season.

Thank you,

Corey Schuh

KYB President