

Ladera Ranch American Ladera Ranch National North Mission Viejo Rancho Mission Viejo San Clemente American San Clemente National

## Little League California District 68

P. O. Box 3025 Mission Viejo, California 92690 San Juan Capistrano Santa Margarita American Santa Margarita National South Mission Viejo Trabuco Canyon Viejo



Dear District 68 Family Member,

As some of you are aware, there have been discussions relative to reducing the number of leagues in Mission Viejo. When the decision was made by previous district administrators to put four independent leagues in Mission Viejo, the community was very young and growing. At that time, all four leagues had an abundance of kids in each of their respective programs (North Mission Viejo Little League, South Mission Viejo Little League, Rancho Mission Viejo Little League and Viejo Little League). The demographics in Mission Viejo have changed as the city has become an "older" community. Hopefully, in time we will have more balanced growth in Mission Viejo with older families moving out and younger families move in. Currently, the demographics of Mission Viejo cannot support four independent leagues.

Another area of concern is the Las Flores community. It was included in Viejo LL's boundaries back when the City of Mission Viejo was considering annexing this area. Mission Viejo has reconsidered this, and Las Flores remains as an unincorporated area in the County of Orange. There are political issues that arise with the children residing in Las Flores playing in the Mission Viejo; this involves residency requirements in attaining field priority and the fee structure when considering the percent of players not residing in the city.

With both these issues at hand, a committee representing all four Mission Viejo leagues was formed. We discussed ways to increase growth in our leagues and how we could adjust the boundaries to assure success in all our leagues; this included discussions on how many leagues the City of Mission Viejo could support.

After many hours of discussion and evaluation of multiple alternatives and solutions, the committee has all agreed to proceed with the following plan moving forward:

- 1. Rancho Mission Viejo and Viejo Little League will merge starting in the 2021 season leaving three independent leagues within Mission Viejo.
  - a. We will keep the boundaries as close as possible to their current locations but will adjust the boundaries to balance the population of each league, to our best ability. This will include:
    - i. Balancing the number of elementary schools within each league's boundaries;
    - ii. Balancing the number of secondary schools within each league's boundaries; and
    - iii. Accounting for new homes being built in Mission Viejo.
- 2. The Las Flores area will become part of Trabuco Canyon Little League in 2021.

All the above changes are pending approval by Little League Baseball and Little League Softball.

All returning players affected by the boundary or league changes in 2021 may continue to play in their current league pending completion and approval of a Regulation IId form. Siblings of these affected players may also remain in their current league playing under the sibling's Regulation IId form. These Regulations include any players playing under Little League School Enrollment Form.

Thank you for your assistance in helping to move this plan forward.

Sincerely,

Ezio Petrella District Administrator California 68