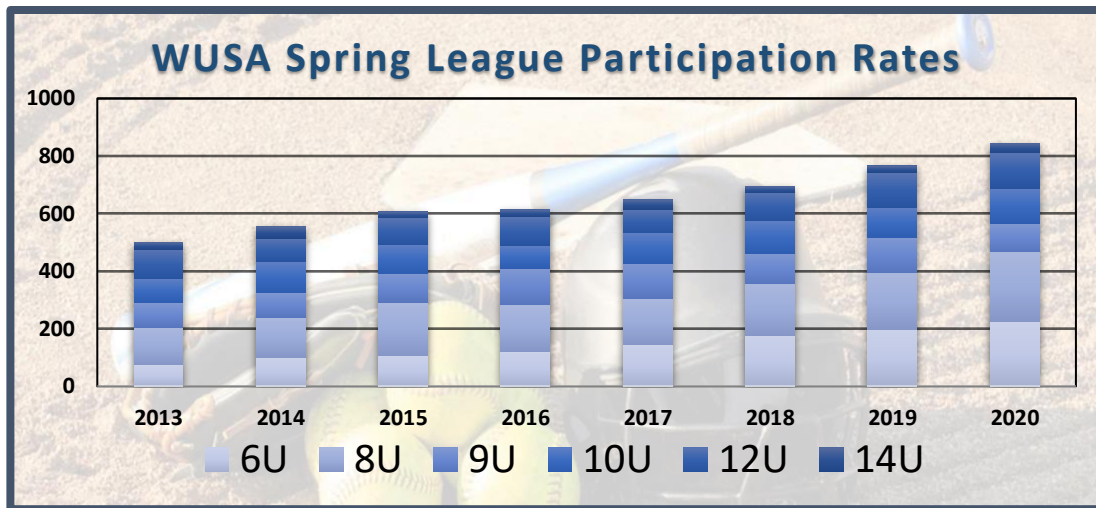


West University Softball Association

Spring 2020 Newsletter

Dear WUSA families: As we reflect on the spring season's abrupt end and the numerous challenges our community and league face in the months to come, we all share a sense of loss and concern. Because of this, it is all the more important that we consider the status of the league leading up to this unprecedented event and remind ourselves what we can look forward to as we remain hopeful for a return to play in the coming months.

Our 2020 spring season saw the largest number of participants in our league's history. The 844 active participants this season were a compelling indicator that WUSA continues to provide a premier outlet for girls youth softball and community engagement in the region. Our spring season boasted 224 players in our entry-level, 6U division. With this youthful energy in the on-deck circle, WUSA is positioned to continue its remarkable growth into future years.



Specifically, our league’s intentional efforts at striking the right balance of safety, fun, skill development and competition in an environment promoting sportsmanship have been keys to our success in addition to our top-notch facilities. Support of an active, energetic Auxiliary hosting numerous of our very fun off field events is another key element to the well-rounded WUSA experience. The season kick-off Parade & Carnival, the Father-Daughter Dance, as well as the Adult Social for parents are just a few of the Auxiliary-supported events celebrated in the traditional spring season. The 2020 Father-Daughter dance was a showcase of the growth and excitement in the league.

Our Spring 2020 newsletter focuses on several reasons we have heard that families return or choose to join our league. While many details of our re-opening remain uncertain, this newsletter will share information about the league’s commitment to our values, future plans related to not only the health and safety of players, coaches, and fans as we look forward to re-opening softball, but also enhancements to our facilities that will sustain the high quality experience WUSA is known for in the years to come.

WUSA Supports Our Umpires

As our league play came to a halt, so too did the funds earned by our umpire crew members. Many of our umpires use the money they earn from our games to make ends meet, and they certainly are hurting now as result of not just our league's cancellation of games, but the cancellation of all softball tournaments and games around the area. On behalf of all our WUSA families, the league provided a stipend to each of our umpires in recognition of their value to our league and to help them during these difficult times. In total, WUSA's donations to our umpires totaled approximately \$6,000. One of the notes of thanks we received is worth sharing and sums up so much of what our league is about.

Dear WUSA: Thoughts and Prayers to you and yours in these unusual times.

Words cannot express my sincere gratitude when I opened my "snail mail" early this a.m. after leaving it in a box overnight (truly unusual times). Many words and good thoughts came to my mind...Thank You. I'm truly grateful and humbled by your generosity.

I was last on the fields at WUSA Tuesday, March 10, 2020. I worked a high school double header the next night and at a plate meeting Thursday, March 12, 2020, while volunteering at another youth complex, and all normalcy that I think of came to a halt. I fear we have a long road ahead of us all but, if we adhere to Do Our Part to Slow the Spread of COVID-19, we can make a difference until a vaccine is found.

In my two full seasons and part of 2020, I have met and gotten to know many on your board. Even if it was just me introducing myself to try to get to know those volunteering \running the youth organization I'm calling games for, seeing you on the field as many of us pull double (Sometimes more as I did

w\my children) duty, searching out to ask a question and some searching me out to get to know me or ask questions, it has and I hope in the future, truly been a pleasure. I have mentioned this to a few on the Board (and our umpire crew) that I have had more interaction with, but wanted all to know that I don't work at a ton of youth softball parks but visit my fair share while devoting a majority of my time volunteering for another youth organization on and off the field.

WUSA treats their umpire crew the best in my book which in my humble opinion contributes to the success of the organization and enjoyment for the community you are serving. Others should take note. I'm fine spending my time calling games at WUSA as long as the league will have me and I'm able to do it.

Again Thank You. Thoughts and Prayers to you and yours and the entire WUSA Community.

Facilities Updates:

Game Cameras added to McGovern Field

WUSA continues to invest in upgrades to our facilities enhancing the on-field and off-field experience.

New this spring season, we added a game camera at our McGovern field in addition to existing cameras added last spring to our South Campus facilities. Now friends and



families can watch games live if they can't be there in person and even download video clips of those special memories of their player from archived games. Information regarding the website and login information are shared with team managers each season, so be sure to contact your team's manager to receive the gamecam login password for the season.

South Campus Upgrades

As mentioned in previous newsletters, WUSA is advancing plans, albeit cautiously given the uncertainty with COVID-19, to upgrade our South Campus facilities to support our robust growth and ensure that we continue to showcase the best softball facilities in the Houston area. Planned updates include addition of more dedicated warm-up space for pre-game throwing and pitching. The space will provide more safety to players and spectators.

Expansion of the concession building and the addition of a shaded pavilion will provide much needed increases in covered shelter and restroom facilities to keep pace with our league's growth. Your donations to the league and participation in our various fundraising events including our Adult Social directly support WUSA's ability to provide these needed expansions and enhancements that will facilitate our growth well into the future.



Health and Safety Update:

COVID-19, Social Distancing and Softball:
Our league continues to monitor and follow recommendations from state and local authorities regarding social distancing and allowances for recreational sports. Guidance

from national softball associations are also being reviewed that aim to provide specific guidance for league and tournament play. WUSA will communicate in the lead-up to any summer tournament and fall recreation seasons the required measures to be taken by players, coaches, parents and spectators to support the health and safety of our players, coaches and fans.



Summer Tournament Teams:

WUSA is planning to offer summer tournament team play for our families this summer. Competitive summer tournament team play is another way to scratch that softball itch. WUSA supports several summer tournament teams that carry



the WUSA brand of softball around the Texas gulf coast region and beyond. If you want to learn more about summer tournament play and see if it could be a fit for your daughter, read the information provided on our [website](#) or [contact us](#) and we will reach out to you and fill you in on the details. See our blasts for updates on our modified summer tournament team plans for this year. As

always, sign-up for email blasts from the league on our [website](#) so you don't miss any notifications.

Sponsorships:

Especially in these difficult times we are impressed with the generosity of our many sponsors who help us offer great softball experiences to our WUSA families. WUSA has several sponsorship opportunities at different price points and can even create customized sponsorship opportunities to meet a sponsor's specific interest. To learn more about our sponsorships and/or if you would like to become a WUSA sponsor, please [contact us](#).



From all of us at WUSA, we hope you will enjoy a wonderful, healthy and safe summer and we are looking forward to a return to our summer tournament teams in the near future and our recreational softball program in the Fall.

Michael Liebl

WUSA Secretary

If you missed any of our past newsletters, link to them here:

[Winter 2019](#)

[Fall 2019](#)



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