



**Office of the Commissioner**  
**Connecticut Wiffleball League**

10 Whitney Ridge Terrace, North Haven, CT 06473

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**2020 Season**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Start of 2020 Regular Season Postponed Indefinitely; 2020 Regular Season Will Not Be Considered for Start Before June 12<sup>th</sup>; All Spring Training Games Cancelled Week As of 12:00pm (EST) Today; CTWL Will Continue to Evaluate The Ongoing Situation and Effects on 2020 Scheduling**

April 30, 2020

Players, Managers, Officials, Sponsors, and Fans:

While many residents in the State of Connecticut anticipated a quick and swift defeat of COVID-19, much of the opposite has happened. The landscape of sports, let alone this nation, has been flipped upside down over the past several weeks. Tens of thousands of individuals have come down with this disease within the State, with thousands losing their lives among this horrible tragedy. From the outlook not too long ago, it seemed like the world would never return to the life it once had. New reports have shown that the spread of COVID-19 is perhaps slowing within the state within the past week and that there is some light at the end of this tunnel after all. While this information does bring some good hope, one thing remains constant: the fight against COVID-19 and the measures to protect against it is not going away any time soon. To ensure a safe and healthy return to wiffleball, we must continue to remain vigilant in the fight against this invisible enemy.

Following a second conference with all three Clubs and the Commissioner Benjamin Fiore, the Connecticut Wiffleball League will postpone the start of the 2020 season indefinitely. This decision was made to give appropriate time for the team managers and league executives to decide when games could safely start under the guidelines provided by health experts. A start of the 2020 regular season, if deemed safe and reasonable, will not be considered to start before June 12<sup>th</sup>. The 2020 regular season was originally scheduled to begin on May 9-10, and was previously delayed to May 16-17.

**As of 12:00 pm (EST) today, all Spring Training games remaining on the schedule have been canceled. The 2020 season will begin with the regular season instead of Spring Training, if and when the season commences. All in-person events and activities will continue to be canceled or postponed until further notice.**

**The CTWL will continue to evaluate the situation and its circumstances. Guidance related to workouts for teams and their respective players is in the final stages of review and will be sent out to teams by mid-May.**

**The CTWL and its Clubs are continuing to work on possible contingency plans for the rescheduling of the 2020 season. The CTWL plans to give a timeline of possible restarting dates and regular season schedules within the next 1-2 weeks. The CTWL will announce further season schedule updates at the appropriate time and remain as flexible as events and circumstances permit.**

**As we continue to push through these uncertain times, we ask that everyone --our players, managers, volunteers, officials, and fans --continue to follow proper precautions and practices outlined by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and your state and local health if you have not done so already. Failing to do so could put the potential of playing in 2020 in serious jeopardy.**

**We continue to send our thoughts and prayers out today and every day to everyone in the CTWL community, including all friends and family, as well as all those currently affected by COVID-19. We also send our thoughts to everyone in the extended wiffleball community across the nation that has been affected directly or indirectly by this horrible tragedy.**

**When this pandemic originally began a few weeks back, we stated that a "new game" had begun. While it seems like we have won the game for sure, we have not. We are winning but have not won decisively. In the weeks ahead let us all continue to work together as a team --within your families and your local communities --to fight this common enemy, and make sure we win our lives and our game back.**

**Best regards,**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Fiore". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ben" and the last name "Fiore" clearly distinguishable.

**Benjamin Fiore**

**Commissioner, Connecticut Wiffleball League**