

FYB 2024 Summary

FYB Leagues

FYB Spring League. FYB ran league from March 1st through June 10th serving a total 1,032 players ages 4-12, broken down by the following leagues:

- Draft League had 24 teams and 280 players
- Open league had 70 teams and 752 players

FYB Summer League. FYB offered a summer league to play 8 games from July through August. Unfortunately, only 4 teams registered to play in 3 different ages, so we cancelled the summer league offering. After the summer heated up, it was good for the fields to not have played summer league.

League summary: Overall, we had a strong league and plan to offer Spring League next year. For the Summer league, we plan to offer an additional tournament in lieu of a summer league.

FYB Tournaments

FYB Weekend Tournaments. FYB offered 6 weekend tournaments in Wolfforth and Lubbock from March through August. Our tournaments are for players from 7-14 years old.

We played 5 of the tournaments. The BWW in April was cancelled prior to starting the event due to the rain forecast which happened.

We are offering a fall tournament in October for the first time and currently there are 36 teams registered. We anticipate more teams will sign up for the event.

Overall, over 650 teams from West Texas and New Mexico have or will participate in our 2024 tournaments. Listed below are the names of the tournament and the number of teams that attended:

- Knoxville Freeze on March 2-3 with 154 teams
- March Triple Play on March 23-24 with 130 teams
- BWW was cancelled due to rain in advance on April 20-21, we had 116 teams signed up
- May Double Play on May 18-19 with 119 teams
- West Texas State on June 8-9 with 178 teams
- August Heat on August 3-4 with 43 teams
- October Scream scheduled on October 12-13 currently have 36 teams registered

Tournament Summary: We had a strong tournament season. Next year we plan to offer 8 tournaments from March through October.

Fields

We received very positive feedback from coaches, parents, and players about the condition of our fields in March which I relayed to the City Manager.

One of my coaches said this is the best the fields have looked in over 5 years. This can be attributed to the following:

- The city allowed us to water fields starting last summer.
- We spent \$13,000 overseeding the fields with rye grass in early October 2023 and were allowed to water the fields daily.
- Watering the fields continued per the city schedule during 2024.
- We have worked closely with Henry High on fixing sprinkler system leaks throughout the ballpark.
- The water well has remained on during the year allowing us to hand water when possible.
- We didn't play league last summer (2023) allowing the fields to recover.
- I would say we had a better than normal amount of rainfall this year which benefited the fields.

Field Improvements and Investments: In August 2024, we assessed the status of the fields, see below:

- Fields 1-3 the Bermuda was in good shape, and we continued to water on schedule with no major improvement needed.
- Fields 4-5, the infield became sparse with bermuda grass and uneven. We invested \$12,500 in new sod infields on field 4 and 5 fields and levelled out the playing field.
- Fields 1-5 are scheduled to overseed on October 14th with rye. The total investment is \$13,000 to overseed.
- With other field maintenance and repairs this past year, FYB has invested over \$40,000 on field maintenance and improvements.

Field Summary: The water has been critical in reviving our fields and it was noticed. FYB continues to invest in our fields to make them better.

Operations

Based on feedback received from the City Council last January, we worked hard to make sure that our restrooms and fields we properly maintained and kept clean during the season.

- Light Replacement: The city handled light replacement for the fields lights this past season.
- Trash: The city provided additional trash containers during our weekend tournaments.
- Non-field mowing: The city handled the mowing around the complex and between the playing fields.

Proposed Capital Improvements

Listed in the chart below is a proposal for capital improvements for the complex submitted to the City Manager in late April and discussed with Danielle Sweat in September 2024. Any investment and capital improvements by the city would be greatly appreciated.

Desired Capital Improvements	Comments
Replace field lights with LED lights	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cost unknown• Finding the current bulbs is becoming problematic

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could this be funded by a grant? • Excel Energy has a grant program to assist cities with this conversion.
Concrete walkway between F1-F2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost unknown • Would allow the grass to grow between fields. • Give parents a walkway to not have to work on dirt.
Concrete driveway between F3-F4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost unknown • Give a driveway for service or emergency vehicles to access the middle of the complex • Allow for parents to not have to walk on dirt/mud to the fields.
Paved Parking Lots	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost unknown • Designated parking is on dirt, be nice to have paved parking
Expanded Parking Lot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost unknown • As houses continue to be built, we will continue to lose current parking
Street connection to the Southwest of the complex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating another outlet for traffic to leave • Currently must jump on dirt road to access new road where new houses are being built
Fence replacement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fencing is aging, suggest a long-term replacement plan for the fences
Dirt removal around complex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove dirt build-up outside the complex to help level out the parking area.
Artificial Turf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost unknown, rough estimate \$300k per field or a total of \$1.5m for the complex • Could this be funded by a grant? • Having turf fields would make this the premier baseball park in Lubbock County • Reduce water consumption for fields