

Bi-Annual Membership Survey Results



February 19, 2024

Results Summary

Overall

- 58% of Members Responded
- Camaraderie and Appropriate Competition are good things
- Concerns for improved field quality, improved/certified umps, balanced teams , simpler/clearer rules, and Codgers as community pillars
- No real trends on increasing the number of games in Summer season
- 2 game weeks at least every week to every other week is acceptable to many
- Monday through Friday games and occasional Saturdays are fine as is going to Mashpee or Bourne
- Current Ball and Bat desired in each division
- Preference for skills-based division assignment
- Nothing conclusive on using certified umps or changing where they stand
- Strong interest in both divisions for interleague play D2 especially interested in tournament opportunities

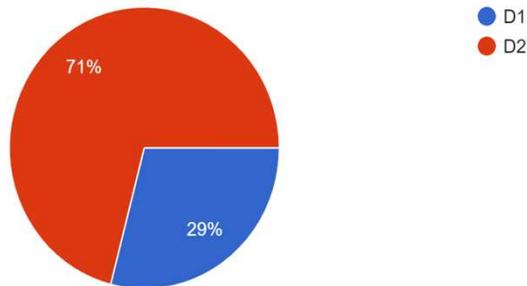
D2 Section

- Slight Majority in favor of 11 in the field
- Rules
 - Support for optional sliding
 - Modest support for batters to run to 1st base
 - Support for recycling pinch runners during a game
 - Support for optional and encouraged use of screen by pitchers (provided masks and heart guards)
- Playoff Considerations
 - Retain some approach using double elimination playoffs
 - Two umps were preferred by majority
- Team Construction and Draft: Strong Preference to retaining existing teams with some interest in exploring mods to the draft process

We had 58% of Members Respond with most D1 respondents having played for >6 years and Most D2 respondents between 1 and 6 years.

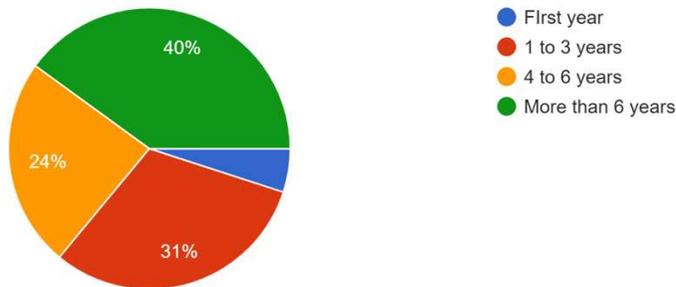
What Division do you currently or expect to play in for the 2024 Season?

100 responses



How many years have you been playing softball with the Cape Codgers?

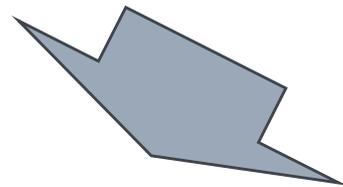
100 responses



- Greater than 6 years:
 - D1 – 14
 - D2 – 26
- 4 to 6 years:
 - D1 – 7
 - D2 – 17
- 1 to 3 years:
 - D1 – 7
 - D2 – 24
- First Year
 - D1 – 1
 - D2 – 4

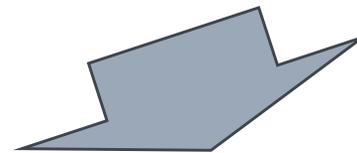
What I like Most About Codgers: Camaraderie, Appropriate Competition, Playing Softball, and Exercise

- 97 responded to this question (out of 100)
- 69 responses: Friendship, making friends, Camaraderie
- 35 responses: Appropriate or good competition and overall organization of the league
- 22 responses: Joy and ability to be playing
- 9 responses: Exercise



D1

- 29 out of 29 responded
- 22 mentioned camaraderie
- 11 mentioned competition
- 7 mentioned playing softball
- 3 mentioned exercise



D2

- 68 out of 71 responded
- 47 mentioned camaraderie
- 24 mentioned competition
- 15 mentioned playing softball
- 6 mentioned exercise

What to Change: Lots of ideas with most common being improved field quality, improved/certified umps, balanced teams and simpler/clearer rules*

- 89 responded to this question (out of 100)
- 11 responses: Ump quality, call consistency and using paid umpires
- 12 responses: Field quality/safety improvement
- 10 responses: Creating and maintaining balanced teams
- 9 responses: Over competitiveness, bullying, aggressive behavior
- 15 responses: Specific and varied rules changes from ability to slide to eliminating pitching screen to using unlimited pinch runners from anywhere to running through bases

* Variety and disparity of responses makes it difficult to determine any specific differences in trends between D1 and D2

Concerns to Be Addressed: Field Quality, rules changes for safety, umpire quality and Codgers as a pillar of the Falmouth Community*

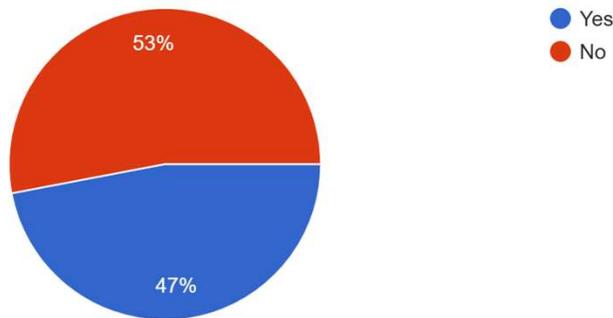
- 59 responded to this question (out of 100)
- 15 responses: Improving field conditions
- 10 responses: Rules changes for safety mostly related to running through bases
- 8 responses: Better umps, 3rd party umps or no umps
- 4 responses: Code of conduct, sportsmanship and Codgers as a civic pillar

* Variety and disparity of responses makes it difficult to determine any specific differences in trends between D1 and D2

Results indicate D2 players are divided on playing more games while D1 respondents lean toward the same/fewer

This year each team played 18 regular season games in the Summer. Would you like to see the league increase the number of games each team plays?

100 responses

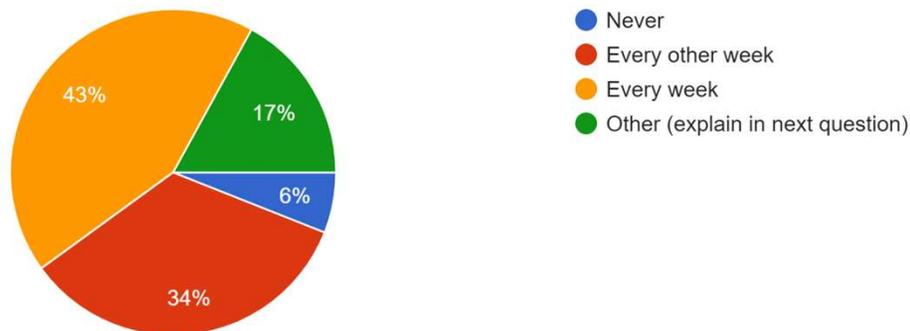


- D2 --
 - More Game – 34 (48%)
 - Same/Fewer -- 37 (52%)
- D1
 - More Games – 13 (45%)
 - Same/Fewer – 16 (55%)

D1 and D2 membership appears to have interest in 2 games per week at least every other week (84% for D2 and 69% for D1)

How often would you be willing to play two games per week?

100 responses

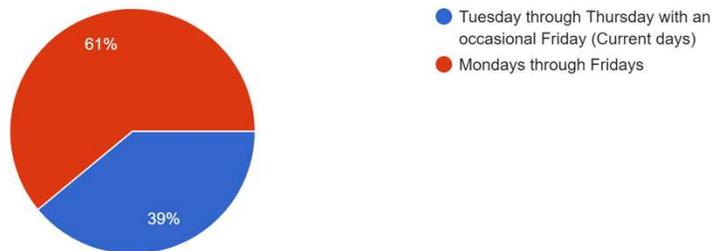


- D2 --
 - Never – 4 (6%)
 - Every Other – 27 (42%)
 - Every – 30 (42%)
 - Other – 10 (14%)
- D1
 - Never – 2 (7%)
 - Every Other – 7 (24%)
 - Every – 13 (45%)
 - Other – 7 (24%)

- D1 “Other” response trends – most in favor of 2 games per week periodically -- every other week or early in the season when there are fewer injured players. One respondent suggested every 3 weeks.
- D2 “Other” response trends – For make up games, Occasionally or every 3rd week

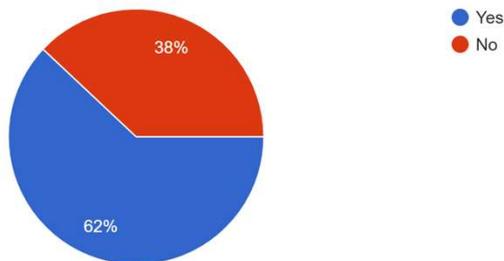
Respondents are willing to be able to play games Monday through Friday and even on occasional Saturday, regardless of division

What days would you be willing to play games?
100 responses



- D2 --
 - Tues-Thursday-Occasional Friday – 29 (41%)
 - Mon-Friday – 42 (59%)
- D1
 - Tues-Thursday-Occasional Friday – 10 (34%)
 - Mon-Friday – 19 (66%)

Would you be open to playing on an occasional Saturday in the Summer?
100 responses

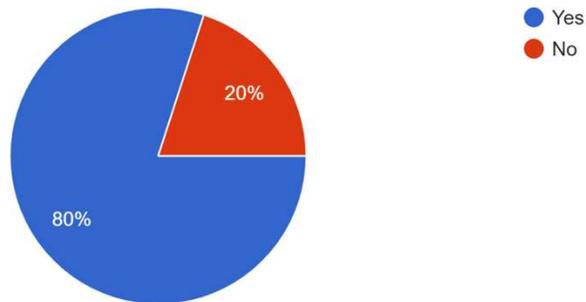


- D2 --
 - Yes – 44 (62%)
 - No – 27 (38%)
- D1
 - Yes – 18 (62%)
 - No – 11 (38%)

Willingness to Travel Out of Falmouth for Fields: Majority of respondents in both divisions willing to travel to Mashpee/Bourne.

If the number of games was increased and the Codgers needed additional fields, would you be willing to go to Mashpee or Bourne to play games?

100 responses

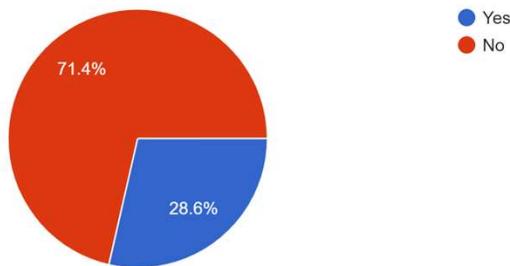


- D2 –
 - Mashpee/Bourne for Fields – 58 (82%)
 - No Travel for Fields – 13 (18%)
- D1
 - Mashpee/Bourne for Fields – 22 (76%)
 - No Travel for Fields – 7 (24%)

Equipment: Stick with our current ball and bat for both divisions

Today, we allow Senior Bats (Bat Performance Factor of 1.21) in both divisions which impacts the speed and distance of a hit ball. Should we change... ASA-certified (Bat Performance Factor of 1.20)?

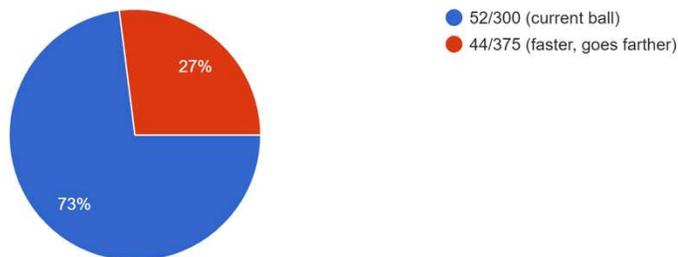
98 responses



- D2 --
 - 1.21 BPF (Senior Bat)– 17 (24%)
 - 1.20 BPF – 54 (76%)
- D1
 - 1.21 BPF (Senior Bat)– 16 (59%)
 - 1.20 BPF – 11 (41%)

Today, in D1 and D2, we use a 12-inch ball with a rating of 52 core/300 compression. Other leagues use a 44 core/375 compression ball which is a hard...ue). Which would you prefer the Codgers to use?

100 responses

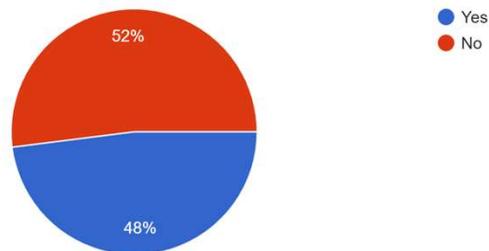


- D2 --
 - 52/300 -- 46 (65%)
 - 44/375 – 25 (35%)
- D1
 - 52/300 -- 27 (93%)
 - 44/375 – 2 (7%)

Umpires: Feedback on Certified Umps was inconclusive with a slight preference for Codger Umps in D1; Field Based Ump was preferred in D1

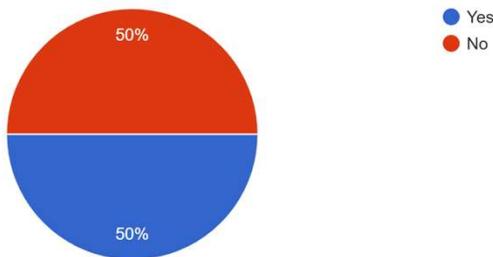
Would you be willing to increase the registration fee to hire ASA umpires for all games rather than using umpires who are also players in the league?

100 responses



It is pretty easy for an umpire to call balls and strikes because of the strike plate that we use. However, many calls on the bases are missed because...screen for protection instead of at home plate?

100 responses



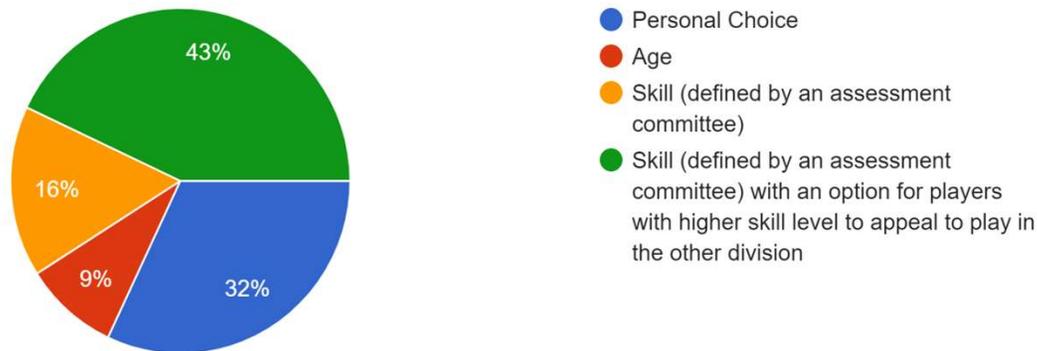
- D2 --
 - Certified Umps (ASA)- 36 (51%)
 - Codger Umps- 35 (49%)
- D1
 - Certified Umps (ASA)- 12 (41%)
 - Codger Umps- 17 (59%)

-
- D2 --
 - From the Field -- 34 (48%)
 - Behind the Plate - 37 (52%)
 - D1
 - From the Field -- 16 (55%)
 - Behind the Plate - 13 (45%)

Player Division Assignment: Preference overall and by division for skills-based assignment

We are interested in creating both a safe and a fun environment for each member of the Cape Codgers. We have established two divisions to provide...ning which division a player should be playing in?

100 responses

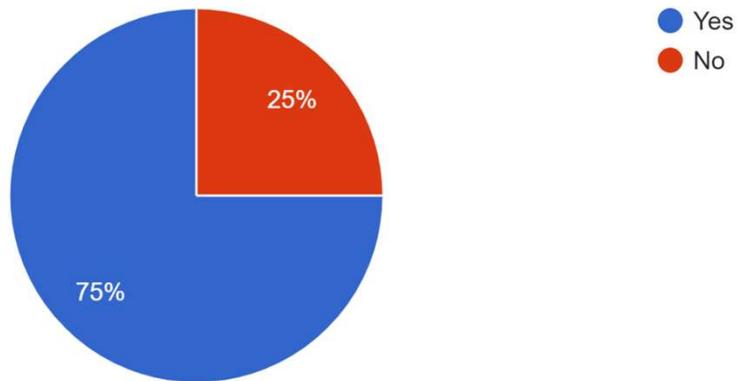


- D2 –
 - Skill -- 44 (62%)
 - Age -- 5 (7%)
 - Personal Choice -- 22 (31%)
- D1
 - Skill -- 15 (52%)
 - Age -- 4 (14%)
 - Personal Choice -- 10 (34%)

Interleague Play: Preference overall and by division for skills-based assignment

Would you be interested in playing interleague games against Cape Cod Senior Softball Teams?

100 responses



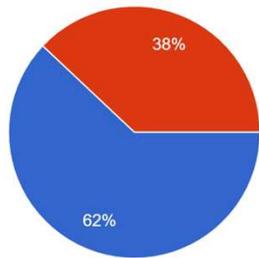
Interest By Division

- D2 – 55 of 71 (77%)
- D1 – 20 of 29 (69%)

Tournament Interest: Mostly in D2

Would you be interested in playing on the Codgers sponsor travel Tournament/Travel Team?

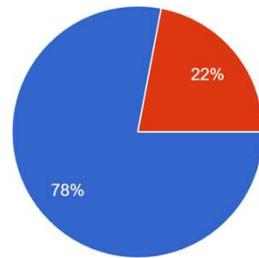
100 responses



• Yes
• No

Would you be interested in a Codgers sponsored/run senior softball tournament?

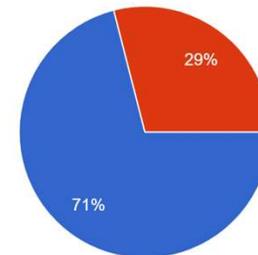
100 responses



• Yes
• No

Would you be willing to help out in a Codger-sponsored/run senior softball event?

100 responses



• Yes
• No

Interest by Division

- D2 – 51 of 71 (72%)
- D1 – 11 of 29 (38%)

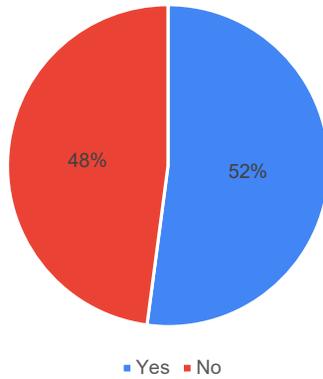
- D2 – 61 of 71 (86%)
- D1 – 17 of 29 (59%)

- D2 – 53 of 71 (75%)
- D1 – 18 of 29 (62%)

D2 Specific Questions

Number of Players on the Field: Slight majority in favor of 11 players in the field

Preference for 11 vs 12 Players in the Field

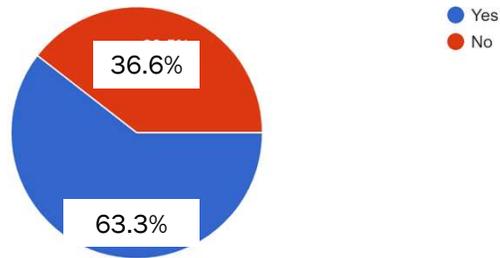


- Total Respondents: 71
- 11 Player Preference: 37
- 12 Player Preference: 34

Rules (Optional Sliding): Most D2 in favor of option with 46% of D2 respondents likely to do so.

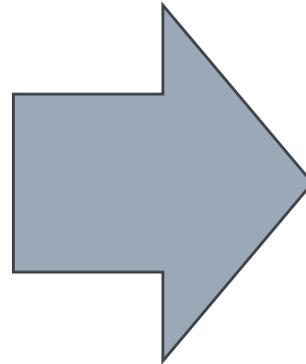
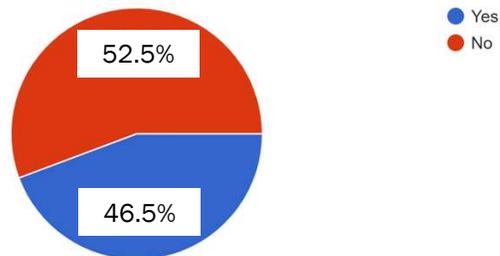
Would you be comfortable with the option (but not the requirement) to slide in D2 next season to reduce the frequency and impact of collisions with fielders?

71 Responses



In D2, if sliding were an option to avoid collisions with fielders, would you slide?

71 Responses

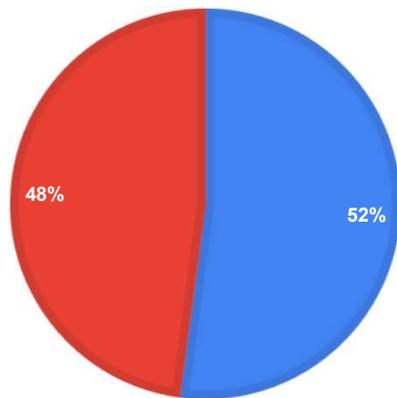


- Comfort with Option to Slide
 - 45 comfortable with Option
 - 30 of those likely to do so
- Discomfort with Option to Slide
 - 26 Uncomfortable with Option
 - 3 of those likely to do so

Rules (Pinch Runners): Modest support for requiring all batters to run at least to 1st Base with strong support for Pinch Runner Recycling Process

D2 PREFERENCE FOR BATTERS USING PINCH RUNNERS

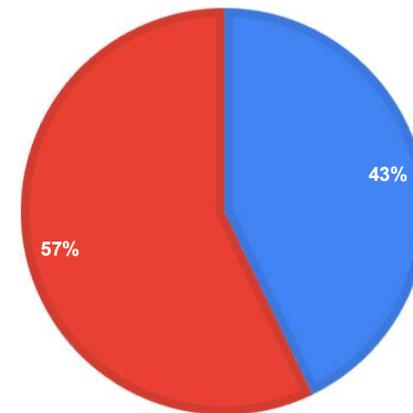
■ Batters Run From the Plate ■ Allow Pinch Runners from the Plate



- Total Respondents for Batters Using Pinch Runners from the Plate: 71
 - All Batters Must Run to 1st Base: 37
 - Pinch Runners from the Plate: 34

D2 PINCH RUNNER USAGE RULES

■ Players making the last out would be Pinch runners regardless of the number of times that player has run
■ After all available pinch runners have run for a player, players would be allowed to pinch run a second time

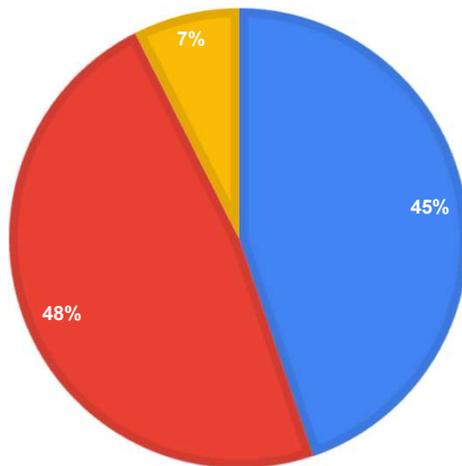


- Total Respondents for Pinch Usage Process: 70
 - Recycle Runners After All Have Run: 40
 - Batters making last out would be pinch runner: 30

Rules (Use of Pitching Screen): Majority of responses favor the option of getting behind the screen versus mandatory*

USE OF PITCHING SCREEN IN D2 PREFERENCES

- Recommend that a pitcher gets behind the screen but give them the option to field balls up the middle
- Pitchers do not have to get behind the screen and allow pitchers to field the ball.
- Require Umpires to call pitchers who do not get behind the screen



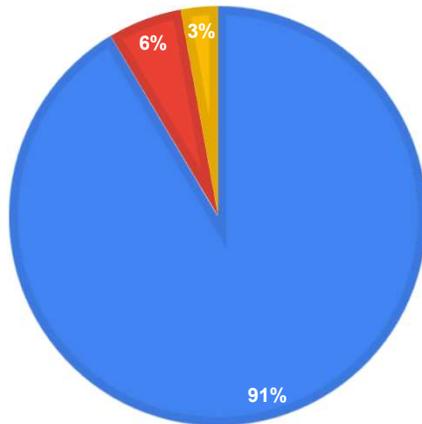
- Total Respondents: 67
- Pitchers are encouraged but not required to get behind screen: 32
- Pitchers do not have to get behind screen: 30
- Requiring Umps to call pitchers who don't get behind screen: 5

* The question included the qualifier that the pitcher would be required to wear a mask and a heart protector

D2 Playoff Considerations : D2 preference for retaining double elimination playoff but strong interest in using 2 umps

D2 PLAYOFF FORMAT

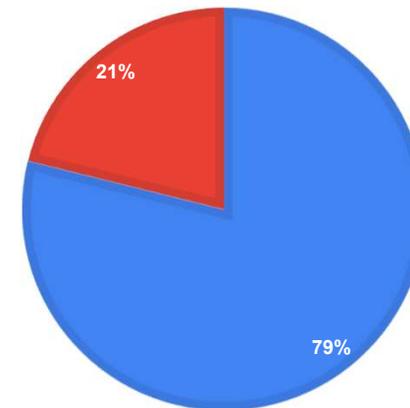
■ Double Elimination ■ Single Elimination with Championship Series ■ Single Elimination



- Total Respondents for Playoff Structure: 70
 - Double Elimination: 64
 - Single Elimination with Championship Series: 4
 - Single Elimination: 2

WILLINGNESS TO PAY EXTRA FOR 2 UMPS DURING PLAYOFFS

■ YES ■ NO

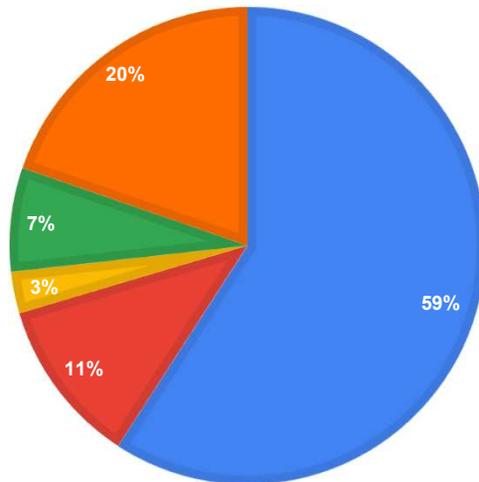


- Total Respondents for Willingness to Pay for 2 Umps for Playoffs: 71
 - YES: 56
 - NO: 15

Approach to Draft and Team Composition: Preference is to Keep As Is

TEAM COMPOSITION AND DRAFT

- Keep Draft and Team Composition as Is
- Modified Draft (Coach, Sponsor, 2 top players, etc) and Annual Draft
- Have Coach Keep 5 Players then Draft
- Complete Redraft Annually
- Draft New And Existing Players Going Back Into Draft to Fill Skills Gaps ...



- Total Respondents: **71**
- Complete redraft: **5**
- Have a modified draft (each D2 team starts with a coach, the team's sponsor (if they are a player), a pitcher, and two top-rated players. All other players are drafted each year: **8**
- Have the coach keep 5 players and everyone else would go into the draft: **2**
- Keep draft and team composition as is (teams stay together and draft order is based on reverse regular season standings of the previous year): **42**
- Draft new and existing players who re-enter the draft based on filling skill level gaps on existing teams to ensure that each team possesses the same distribution of player skills. Each team that possesses gaps at each level drafts those players at that skill level (done through an assessment process) based on regular season standings: **14**

Overall Survey Other Comment Trends (Summarized and Paraphrased)

- More opportunity in the survey to explain answers
- Safety/Collision Concerns
- Electronic Scoreboards
- Praise for the Initiative of the organization to improve
- Too many options in the D2 draft team composition question which will result in status quo
- D2 Playoff Options were insufficient. Should look at Emass and other leagues who use series (less about chance), other approaches (where lower seeded teams play each other to then play higher seeded teams)
- Should consider tryouts for divisions with existing players grandfathered