

SKV, continued from Page A12

they will get some financial assistance from the San Francisco Giants — the Volcanoes MLB affiliate — to cover things like travel and hotel fees, the Volcanoes still plan to operate under whatever fan restrictions are in place, even if they don't get help from the Giants.

"It would be very tough for any NWL team to run a sound business if only 25 percent of the stands could be full. But if the MLB asked us to still operate at 25 percent capacity, we would make

it work, Walker said.

Walker admitted that the organization wants to appease MLB during this process, especially with a new Professional Baseball Agreement (PBA) on the table that could affect the future of the Volcanoes.

A proposal from MLB last year included a plan to overhaul the current minor league system and cut ties with 42 of their lower level minor league teams — the Volcanoes were on the original list of teams that would be cut.

Walker is hoping that the Volcanoes willingness to be cooperative will put them

"We're remaining optimistic and preparing for whatever scenario we face."

— Mickey Walker,
Volcanoes CEO



in the good graces of the MLB when a new PBA is reached — which will likely be in September.

"We would be willing to do just about anything for a new PBA that would be in our favor," Walker said. "It's much more important to keep our affiliation, so we're hoping that our cooperation will help us out in the long run."

If the Volcanoes do have a season with limited fans, the organization will still have to come up with plans to make sure people are adhering to social distancing guidelines inside the stadium.

"Fans would be required to remain six feet apart at all times except for those who live in the same household. We are also working on how fans can enter and exit the

stadium safely," Walker said.

It is still unknown if there will be Volcanoes baseball this summer — or if the season will start on time if there is one. But Walker is encouraged about the progress that has been made.

"At this point, it's hard to say if we will have a season, but the fact that the MLB is getting further down the road bodes well for us, because if the MLB doesn't play, we won't either," Walker said. "We're remaining optimistic and preparing for whatever scenario we face."

KLL, continued from Page A12

most of their games on weekends.

"We're hoping to start in the latter part of August. There have been several leagues that have been showing interest," Siegel said.

But even if KLL gets the go-ahead on their fall baseball plan from the Gov. Brown, one thing that could greatly affect their numbers is kids playing their normal fall sports, like football, soccer or volleyball.

"It's obviously going to look different, especially because we could lose a lot of kids to other sports. No matter how you look at it, it's stressful," Siegel said.

In the meantime, Siegel wants to let people know that the KLL facility is open for use as long as social distancing guidelines are followed and that many of the fields are still in good condition.

"I would just tell kids to hang in there. We're doing everything we can to get a season in place. I know it's been tough, but there are still things kids can do to improve their game either at home or at our facilities," Siegel said.

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