

New Grass on the Field

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Thanks to a lot of hard work and cooperation among members of the Justin sports community, baseball players in the Justin Youth Association are in for a treat when the season begins this spring.

The two baseball fields behind Justin Elementary School have been renovated for the coming season, and JYA President Michael Montgomery said that both fields are ready for play.

"The money that we had was enough to renovate the entire infields of both of our baseball fields," Montgomery said. "This entailed scalping the infields completely, laying down the proper materials, [sand, clay, and soil], installing new sod and ensuring that all was leveled properly."

Weather damage and heavy usage had taken its toll on the fields, and the renovations that were made were necessary, Montgomery said.

"We have a great group of volunteers working up the fields each year," Montgomery said. After discussing for two years the best way to take the playability up a level, they decided to seek help.

"We voted to let the professionals at Sports Field Solutions, Mike Pender in particular, take us the rest of the way. The main reason the renovation was done was to ensure the safest possible fields for the area youth."

Montgomery said Sports Field Solutions offered a reasonable bid to provide the renovations to the fields and that the JYA spent approximately \$30,000 on the project.

Work on the two fields was completed just after Christmas, and so far there has been a very positive reaction to the fields' appearance.

"The response from the community has been tremendous," Montgomery said. "Players can't wait to play. Coaches wanted to



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

The two baseball fields behind Justin Elementary have been updated with new grass in the infields. Above, on of the fields before the renovations; Below, after the work was completed.



start the day it was finished, and the parents and the community sponsors are very happy to see the return from their longtime support."

The JYA has 15 baseball teams that will play their home games on the two fields this season, starting the last week in March.