



California 4 Little League



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<http://llcad4.org>

Little League - Intermediate Division - Junior League - Senior League - Challenger Division



California 4 Little League

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April 25, 1929 - January 1, 2017

Little League International mourns the passing of Ernie Lewis, former California District 4 Administrator, who also served as a member of Little League International Board of Directors and International Advisory Board. He was 87.

"I will always cherish the evening that Ernie and I spent at Candlestick Park in October 1989. When the earthquake hit, I knew I was in good hands," said Stephen D. Keener, Little League President and CEO. "To this day, a small piece of Candlestick Park resides in my office. Ernie handed me a crumbled piece of the stadium concrete and said to take it home. I think of my friend every time I look at it."

Ernie first volunteered with Concord American Little League in 1967, where he served as League President. Continuing his volunteer commitment to the Little League program, Mr. Lewis joined the California District 4 staff. He was elected District 4 Administrator in 1969, serving in that role until 2010 - a term of 40 years.

During his time as a District Administrator, he was instrumental in adding Teenage Divisions, Little League Softball, and the Little League Challenger Division to his local leagues. He also strived to build a safe and healthy experience for the child throughout his district by championing the importance of Little League's A Safety Awareness Program (ASAP).

From 1981 to 1983, Ernie represented the Western Region as representative to the Little League International Board of Directors. Following his three-year term, he went on to serve on the President's Advisory Board. Throughout his tenure as a Little League volunteer, Ernie was committed to providing education and training for his fellow volunteers and expanding opportunities for the children in his community.

Ernie was born in Roseville, CA, the only child of Alice and Ernest Lewis, Sr. He grew up in Vallejo, CA, and played varsity basketball at Vallejo High School. He earned his B.S. in Engineering from the California Maritime Academy and served as an Ensign in the Navy on the USS Boxer during the Korean War. After working for several large insurance companies in San Francisco, he opened his own Farmers Insurance Agency in Antioch in 1972 and retired in 2008.

On February 11, 1951, Ernie married the love of his life, Barbara Pollock. They celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary in 2016. He was dearly loved by his three children, Karan (Vince) Barich, Raymond (Martha) Lewis, and Maureen (Michael) Thomas, and by his four grandchildren, Michael and Katie Barich, and Joseph and Eleni Lewis.

Ernie was a beloved husband, dad, grandpa, and friend. A Masonic / Order of Eastern Star service and a celebration of Ernie's life will be held on February 4, 2017, 1pm at the First Presbyterian Church, 1965 Colfax St., Concord, CA.

In lieu of flowers please consider donating in Ernie's name to either:

OES Senior Living Community
16850 Bastanchury Rd.
Yorba Linda, California 92886-1608

Concord American Little League
P.O. Box 722
Concord, CA 94522

"Win With Dignity, Lose With Class"
Ted Boet - 2010



California 4 Finances

-January Statement-

Opening Balance	20,761.44
Northern California Meeting	472.12
Bank Fee	3.00
Bank Fee	3.00
Boys & Girls Club Donation	200.00
Ending Balance	20,083.32



DA's Desk

Western Region Headquarters

-New Assistant Director-

April Meehleder has officially been named the new Assistant Director of the Little League Western Region, San Bernardino, CA



Ms. Meehleder is a 2006 graduate of Eastern Michigan University with a Bachelor of Arts in Public Relations and has worked at Little League

International Headquarters in South Williamsport, PA., as a League Development Assistant Manager since June 2015.

As part of her new role at the Western Region Headquarters, Ms. Meehleder will work with the Western Region staff to assist districts and local Little League programs throughout the region, enhance operations, and continue to develop and implement new training programs as a resource for those leagues. Ms. Meehleder will also assist in the operation of tournaments, including the annual West Region Little League Softball Tournament and both the Northwest Region and West Region Little League Baseball Tournaments.

Waivers

-The Procedure-

A league **MAY NOT** take any action contrary to Little League rules and regulations until receiving expressed, written permission through the Charter Committee waiver system. Waivers, if granted, are for the current season only.

A league wishing to apply for a waiver of a rule or regulation must do so via the following method:

1. The local league Board of Directors votes whether or not to request the waiver.
2. If the local league Board of Directors votes to request the waiver, the President writes a letter, detailing the request. Supporting documents should be attached, and forwarded to Ted Boet.
3. Ted Boet will include his written opinion, and forward all documents to David Bonham, Western Region Director.
4. Mr. Bonham will present the situation to the Charter Committee for action.
5. The Charter Committee will inform Mr. Bonham of its decision and Mr. Bonham will inform Ted Boet.

Updated Residency Registration

-Revised Procedure-

As part of the new rule changes Little League has modified the residency document requirements into three categories in order to prove "residence". Beginning immediately, residence shall be established and supported by documents containing the full residence which includes parent(s) or guardian(s) name, street address, city, state and zip code information, dated or in force between February 1, 2016 (previous year) and February 1, 2017 (current year), from one or more documents from each of the three Groups outlined in the 2017 Rulebook. Also, a school report card or progress report may no longer be used as a School Enrollment Eligibility document. Players who established "residence" or "school attendance" for regular season and/or tournament prior to the 2016-2017 season using the Player Verification Form, and can produce the form with proper proofs and signatures, will be grandfathered and will NOT need to complete a new Player Verification Form.

Background Checks

-Revised Procedure-

Starting in 2017, Little League's official regulations have been revised to state that **all leagues in the United States are required to conduct background checks that utilize the First Advantage Screening Solutions program provided by Little League International, or another provider that is comparable to First Advantage in accessing background check records for sex offender registry data and criminal records.** For those leagues that have satisfied this regulation in past seasons by utilizing First Advantage, there are not additional expectations, since the First Advantage background check currently meets that standard.

-Tax Form 990-

Taxes are due on Wednesday, February 15, 2017. Non-profit organizations are required to use federal tax form 990 for gross receipts. E-Postcard 990-N if under \$50K, 990-EZ with Schedule A if over \$50K, or 990 with Schedule A if over \$1M.

Leagues recognized under the Little League Group Exemption Number (GEN) must use a fiscal year beginning October 1 and ending September 30.

All non-profits must file some type of 990 form with the IRS annually, regardless of income. That includes **ALL** the individual Little League programs and districts nationwide that are considered 501(c)(3) tax exempt charities. Little League Baseball Incorporated, **CANNOT** file on behalf of any of the thousands of leagues under its group exemption number.

The IRS automatically revokes the federal tax exempt status for any Employer Identification Number (EIN) that hasn't filed a 990 Form for three consecutive years - whether or not the league is under Little League Baseball, Inc.'s GEN or not.

Once revoked, it is a long, arduous and costly process to get the league's existing EIN's federal tax exempt status reinstated with the IRS which can affect the league's donors, ability to fundraise, and operate their program.



LITTLE LEAGUE®

*Character
Courage
Loyalty*



Lewis Memorial Cup

-2017 Standings-

Alameda	600
Albany	803
Antioch	410
Clayton Valley	587
Concord American	720
Continental	645
East County	870
Lafayette	288
Martinez	440
North Oakland	590
Pinole Hercules	616
Pittsburg	460
Richmond	390
South Oakland	681
Walnut Creek	467



ADA Reports

-Liz Berg, Safety Officer ADA-

GREAT NEWS! The ASAP plan submission is up and working in the Little League Data Center. No hard copy submission!!

To access this, simply go to <http://www.littleleague.org>. Select "League Officers" and then "Data Center". You will need your league ID number and password. For new Safety Officers, please contact your league presidents for the information.

Once in, you will scroll down to the "Submit ASAP Plan / Facility Survey" link. There are four tabs that must be completed. Simply follow the prompts for each one and click "save" or "submit". The final tab is where you will upload your ASAP plan. Please be sure the **FIRST** page of your plan is the **Registration** page, which was sent electronically to league presidents on January 10, 2017.

ASAP plans must be completed before your player evaluations. Plans must be uploaded and approved before the February 21st League Presidents Meeting. Don't forget...on time submission is worth Lewis Memorial Cup points and a 15 percent accident insurance credit on the following season's fees.

-Constitution & Bylaws-

A league's constitution is its governing document. It covers big picture items such as membership, election, discipline, finances, etc. Once a constitution is adopted, it remains in force until it is amended.

A league's bylaws must be approved annually and deal with operational rules and policies for conducting day-to-day business. Common items that may be contained in a league's bylaws include tournament team selection method, local rules, age structure of each division, etc.

Updating the Constitution --

Any changes that need to be made to the constitution must be made using the amendment process. Once changes are approved by the membership, forward the updated copy to Western Region Headquarters for final approval. Upon region approval, forward an approved copy to Ted Boet.

Reviewing the Bylaws --

A league's bylaws pertain to local operational rules and policies, and the league needs to approve them annually.

Many leagues utilize local options, especially in the instructional divisions of play. Local rules such as limits on stealing, limits on advancing on overthrows, additional pitching restrictions, etc. should be detailed in a league's bylaws.

Little League's age guidelines allow for a wide range of options when structuring divisions of play. Your league's age structure should be clearly defined in your bylaws.

Your league's method of tournament team selection should be clearly outlined in your bylaws. It is essential to outline and share this information at the beginning of the season.

League's bylaws should be approved by the general membership at the annual meeting. Once approved, they should be distributed and made readily available to any individual involved in the league that requests them.



-Don Waddell, DUIC- -District 4 Umpire Training-

Don Waddell has scheduled several events to help leagues meet their needs for understanding rules, regulations, and umpire training. Flyer attached. Contact Don Waddell for more information.

-2017 Rule Changes-

One Foot In Batter's Box --

Starting in 2017, local leagues will have the option to mandate batters keep one foot in the batter's box throughout their at-bat, barring eight exceptions provided in the rule book, during regular season. If the batter leaves the batter's box or delays play and none of the exceptions apply, the umpire shall warn the batter. After one warning on a batter, the umpire shall call a strike. Any number of strikes can be called on each batter. During tournament play, the rule is no longer an option and all batters will be required to keep one foot in the batter's box.

Intentional Walk (Baseball) --

For Minor and Major Divisions of Baseball, defensive teams will now be able to elect to intentionally walk a batter by announcing the decision to the plate umpire before a pitch to that batter. The ball is ruled dead and no other runners may advance unless forced by the batter's award of 1st base. Once the award is granted, four pitches will be added to the defensive pitcher's official pitch count.

Special Pinch Runner --

During tournament play starting in 2017, a team may utilize a player who is not in the batting order as a special pinch-runner for any offensive player twice a game, but not more than one time per inning. A player may only be removed for a special pinch-runner one time during a game. The player for whom the pinch-runner runs is not subject to removal from the lineup. If the pinch-runner remains in the game as a substitute defensive or offensive player, the player may not be used again as a pinch-runner while in the batting order. However, if removed for another substitute that player or any player not in the line-up, is again eligible to be used as a pinch-runner.



Stealing and Relaying of Pitch Selection and Location --

Starting in 2017, local league umpires will have the option to adopt the rule that the stealing and relaying of signs to alert the batter of pitch selection and/or location is unsportsmanlike behavior. If, in the judgment of the umpire, this behavior is occurring, both the player and the manager may be ejected from the game. The same rule will be mandated during tournament play.

On-Field Altercations --

Language has been created in the 2017 rulebooks to provide umpires with guidance regarding fights and physical altercations. A manager coach, or player shall not leave their position in the field or bench area during a fight or physical confrontation; a manager or coach who attempts to prevent a fight or restore order, in the umpire's judgment, is not in violation of this rule. The umpire shall eject the offender(s) from the game immediately. Failure to comply with the ejection may result in the umpire suspending the game and referring it to the Board of Directors for further action.

-Carla Moore, Softball ADA-

An organizational meeting for all levels of softball is scheduled for Sunday, January 29, 2017, 10am, UC Extension, 2nd Floor, 75 Santa Barbara Road, Pleasant Hill. Meeting **Must** start on time so please **Arrive** before 10am. Lunch will be provided. Points to be covered will be formation of Interleague teams and scheduling games.

"Game Schedulers" must provide the following information at this meeting:

- Dates & Times of fields to be used.
- School Holidays and Events.
- Cannot play days.

Not enough players to form a team....or not enough teams for a division? Consider submitting a Combined Teams Request Form. This form is used by leagues in which there are not enough players to field a team. Two or more leagues could use an approved form to pool their players, and select the teams from among all players in the pool.



-Don Mayjoffo, LLB ADA-

The Little League Official Uniform Patch is the only recognized identification which sets a Little Leaguer apart from all other children who play baseball or softball. The patch symbolizes the Little League mission of building character, teaching discipline and fostering loyalty.

Rule 1.11.....Use of the Official Patch is **MANDATORY** for all divisions of Little League for both regular season & tournament play.

NOTE: The Patch may NOT be screen-printed or sublimated.

Official Little League Patches are available online. Purchase patches early for your regular season....and have extras for the tournament season.

-David Preuss, Baseball ADA-

An organizational meeting for both 50/70 and Junior League Baseball will be held at the Blue Barn in Berkeley (4th & Harrison Street) on Thursday, February 2, 2017 at 7pm. Please let David know your league contacts for 50/70 and JLB.

Please confirm the following at the January 17th District 4 Meeting.

- Name of person attending the 2-2-17 organizational meeting.
- Number of interleague teams.
- Field location and availability.

A league not represented at the organizational meeting may be excluded from the interleague schedule or limited to only a few games with teams from other leagues.

-Geoffrey Shiu ADA-

California District 4 is very proud to announce that Candido Anicete and Norm Downing have been selected to umpire at a Western Region Tournament in 2017. Candido Anicete from Pinole Hercules Little League will be umpiring at the LLBBWR in San Bernardino, CA in August and Norm Downing from Pittsburg Little League will be umpiring at the SLSBWR in Missoula, MT in July. Candido and Norm are both very deserving of these prestigious appointment and will do an outstanding job representing California 4 and the Western Region.

-Valerie Potts, Secretary ADA-

Little League Insurance Programs --

The AIG Group Insurance Program is specially designed for chartered Little Leagues to create affordable protection for all eligible participants and lower program costs to local leagues.

Leagues may purchase their insurance from any outside source, but the Accident Insurance and General Liability Insurance must, at a minimum, include comparable limits and scope of coverage to that provided by the AIG Group Insurance Program for Little League. AIG offers the following types of insurance coverage.

- Accident
- Liability
- Directors and Officers Liability
- Cyber Liability
- Crime

How to Submit an Accident Claim --

A claim for an eligible member under the league's Accident Insurance should be filed with Little League International within 20 days of the incident and a claim number will be assigned. Claimant can submit and reference claim number to all itemized bills from the medical provider as well as any primary insurance explanation of benefits for any treatments for the accident.

How to Submit a Crime Claim --

Submit in writing a short narrative of what took place; include the date of loss and the date of discovery. Attach a police report including the phone number and address of the police department so that the insurance carrier can correspond with them. Attach proof of ownership and proof of value of items stolen...canceled checks or cash receipt. Volunteer embezzlement...submit a copy of an in-house audit.



**I Trust In God
I Love My Country
And Will Respect Its Laws
I Will Play Fair
And Strive To Win
But Win Or Lose
I Will Always Do My Best**

California District 4 Training Clinics

RULES CLINICS

Rules Clinics for Umpires, Managers, Coaches and Parents

Clinics are designed for all Little League Volunteers – managers, coaches, parents, and umpires – who want to learn more about the Little League baseball and softball rules and how the game is played.

Attendees will participate in roundtables and discuss specific game scenarios that illustrate the rules of the game.

Two Clinic Dates! Locations provide for easy access from anywhere in District 4:

Thursday, February 9th, 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Location Ellerhorst Elementary,
Multipurpose Room

3501 Pinole Valley Road, Pinole,

Thursday, February 16th, 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Mt. Diablo Elementary School
5880 Mount Zion Drive, Clayton

Softball Only Rules Clinic for Umpires, Managers and Coaches

This rules clinic will cover the Little League softball specific rules. The instruction team will use lecture and video examples to help explain key rule areas. District 4 Interleague softball rules will also be reviewed.

This clinic is open to all who are interested in learning more about softball, but attendance by managers and coaches involved in Interleague play is mandatory.

Tuesday, February 7th, 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

U.C. Cooperative Extension Service, 75
Santa Barbara Rd, 2nd Floor Conference
Rm., Pleasant Hill

*No cost to attend any of the clinics!
Preregistration required for the Mechanics
Clinics – learn more at*

www.facebook.com/CAD4U

For more information, contact Don Waddell,

District 4 Umpire in Chief at
llcad4uic@gmail.com or

925-788-6346

UMPIRE MECHANICS CLINICS

Basic Umpire Mechanics Clinic

A one day clinic designed to teach the basic two umpire mechanics for the 60 foot diamond used in Little League Softball and Baseball.

The Clinic will be offered in two sections – students may attend one or both of the sections! Lunch provided!

Morning Section will cover Base and Plate Umpire Field Mechanics

Afternoon Section will cover Plate Umpire Mechanics, including both static Soft Toss and live pitching with machines in cages.

Sunday, March 5th,

Morning – 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Afternoon – 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location Concord American Little League fields, end of Galindo St., Concord.

NEW - "Big Diamond" Two Umpire Mechanics Clinic

A half day clinic to prepare umpires for games played on the 70', 80', and 90' foot fields. Instruction will cover proper positioning on the big field, umpire responsibilities, and proper pitching mechanics.

Sunday, March 19th,

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Location Caldecott Field, 6900 Broadway,
Oakland (just off Highway 24)

NEW – Junior Umpire Mechanics Clinic

A special One Day clinic just for the teenage umpire! Clinic will cover the same content as the Basic Umpire Mechanics clinic, but tailored for the Junior Umpire! This is the best opportunity to improve your skills for this season as a youth umpire!

Sunday, March 26th,

8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location Hidden Lakes Park Fields,
Chilpancingo Pkwy. and Morello Ave.,
Martinez

To register for one of the Umpire Mechanics Clinics, please go to www.eventbrite.com and using the Search box, enter "District 4 Little League Umpire" for a list of clinics.



2017 Little League Day at the A's

SUNDAY, April 23 - Little League Day #1

- A's vs. Seattle Mariners @ 1:05 PM

SUNDAY, May 7 - Little League Day #2

- A's vs. Detroit Tigers @ 1:05 PM

Little League Day includes:

- Pregame festival in B Lot
- Pregame parade for players & coaches
- Special giveaway item (subject to availability)



Little League Discounted Pricing:

- Lower Box: \$35
- Field Reserved: \$30
- Field Level: \$26
- Plaza Level: \$22
- Plaza Outfield: \$18
- Plaza Reserved: \$14



For more information contact Alissa Persichetti at

510-563-2281 or apersichetti@athletics.com