



California 4 Little League



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



California 4 Little League

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



California 4 Finances

-April Statement-

Opening Balance	40,627.02
February Dinner	247.92
Tournament Fee - Pittsburg	200.00
Tournament Fee - Martinez	100.00
Challenger Donation - ECLL	500.00
Challenger Donation - PHLL	600.00
District Dues	3,100.00
Challenger Donation - MLL	500.00
Challenger Donation - Albany	1,000.00
Tournament Fee - Continental	250.00
Umpire Clinic Payment	85.00
Umpire Clinic Lunch	300.00
Challenger Donation - LLL	1,000.00
Challenger Donation - WCLL	1,500.00
District Dues	4,175.00
District Dues	3,986.00
Challenger Donation - CVLL	500.00
District Dues	3,038.00
Bank Fee	3.00
Ending Balance	63,045.10



DA's Desk

-Volunteer Awards-

Headquarters strongly recommends local leagues and district to recognize individuals who have help demonstrate the benefits and values of volunteerism, family and sportsmanship. Award program material may be downloaded from the Little League Website.

The Volunteer of the Year Award, Mom of the Year Award, Challenger Award, Good Sport of the Year Award and Softball Volunteer of the Year Award are supported through the generosity of AIG.

The International recipient for each award, and a guest, will be provided with round-trip transportation to the Little League Baseball World Series and hotel accommodations.



Lewis Memorial Cup

-2017 Standings-

Alameda	1050
Albany	1945
Antioch	1244
Clayton Valley	1486
Concord American	1781
Continental	1365
East County	1491
Lafayette	728
Martinez	1238
North Oakland	1600
Pinole Hercules	1546
Pittsburg	1326
Richmond	1281
South Oakland	1691
Walnut Creek	1364



ADA Reports

-Geoffrey Shiu, ADA- -A's Little League Days-

The A's season is officially underway, and Little League Day 1 with the A's on April 23rd is fast approaching. The deadline to purchase tickets for this event is Thursday, April 20th. The A's recommend getting your tickets prior to the deadline, as there are a limited number of special tickets available, and they may sell out in advance. Tickets may be purchased by visiting www.athletics.com/littleleague.

As an added bonus, 15,000 fans will receive the Khris Davis Striped Socks (below), courtesy of Black Bear Diner.



**-Fred Flint, Challenger ADA-
-Challenger Jamboree-**

Annual California 4 Challenger Jamboree is scheduled for Sunday, April 30th, Heather Farms Park, Walnut Creek. All 24 Challenger teams in District 4 participates in this one day event with games all day long on 4 different fields. First games at 9am...last games at 130pm.

Leagues are encourage to sponsor and operate a game fun booth at the Jamboree. Please bring your own chairs, pop-ups, prizes, etc.. Please send monetary donations, payable to California District 4, and sent directly to Ted Boet.

April Meehleder, Assistant Western Region Director, has heard so many great things about the Annual California 4 Challenger Jamboree that she has scheduled herself to attend this year to witness firsthand the entire event and to meet all the hard working volunteers that make the Jamboree a huge success. April is also looking forward to meeting league officials from all of our 15 charters.

**-David Preuss, Baseball ADA-
-Big Diamond Baseball-**

Intermediate 50/70 --

Special Games Tournament (May 4-9) have been cancelled and will attempt to schedule rained out games on those dates.

50/70 & Junior League Bats --

All composite barrel bats used in 50/70 and Junior League games must have a BBCOR performance standard certification identification on the bat. A 2-1/4 non composite barrel bat may be used provided the bat is labeled with a BPF 1.15 or less identification.

Junior League --

David will attempt to reschedule rained-out games, but it would be in the best interest of all teams to be proactive and contact managers of teams you were scheduled to play to find a mutually acceptable date.

Senior League Baseball --

April 18th is the deadline to contact David if your league needs to be involved with inter-league or inter-district play.

**-Liz Berg, Safety Officer ADA-
-Thunder & Lightning-**

Lightning poses a serious threat during the Little League regular and tournament seasons. In the United States, lightning activity picks up during the spring and peaks during the summer. Having a plan and knowing what to do when lightning approaches is important for all.

This starts with being "weather aware" by staying on top of the latest forecast from a trusted, local meteorologist. A quiet summer day can turn stormy very quickly, so it's important to be ready for quickly changing weather. It's helpful to use a smartphone app at the field to monitor rain and thunderstorms approaching your area.

Lighting can strike long before it starts raining! In fact, many lightning strike victims are hit before rain begins. Lightning can strike over 10 miles away from a thunderstorm, so action needs to be taken before the wet weather arrives.

If you hear thunder or observe threatening skies immediate action is required! It is not safe to be outside when lightning is in your area. Dugouts and pavilions do not provide safe cover during thunderstorms, and never seek shelter under a picnic shelter, under bleachers, or in a shed.

When lightning threatens, seek safety in a sturdy building that has plumbing and electricity. If this isn't an option, seek shelter in a hard-topped vehicle with the windows up. While in the vehicle, don't touch anything metal, or any electronics. It is safe to head back to the field 30 minutes after the thunder and lightning come to an end.

-Don Mayjoffo, LLB ADA-

Don Mayjoffo has visited several leagues to inspect their facilities and to observe their practices and games. Don is very happy to report that all leagues he has visited have been diligent in observing safety rules and following playing rules.

Don has received several reports from interleague teams not showing up for their scheduled games. It should be general practice for the host team to contact the visiting team the night before their scheduled game to confirm the game is still on and at the same field.

**-Don Waddell, DUIC-
-Little League Rule Myths-**

These rules, and their explanations using "Layman's terms", are intended to provide clarity and understanding, so that when it is necessary to use rulebook terminology, you are able to illustrate your description of events in a way that is clear to you, and the person asking the question.

1. The hands are considered part of the bat. If a pitch hits a batter's hand it is either a fair or foul.

AR: The hands are part of the batter's body. Therefore the umpire must judge if the ball hit the bat or batter's hand first. 6.08(b)

2. If the batter "breaks his wrists" when swinging, it's a strike.

AR: The term "breaks his/her wrists" does not appear in the Little League Rulebook. The umpire must judge whether, or not, the batter attempted to swing at the pitch as stated in the definition of a strike. 2.00

3. If a batted ball hits the plate first it's a foul ball.

AR: Home plate, first, second, and third base are all completely within fair territory. The foul lines are also within fair territory. In order to rule the ball foul, it must have come to rest in foul territory or be touched in foul territory. 2.00

4. The batter cannot be called out for interference if he is in the batter's box.

AR: Offensive Batter Interference is defined in Rule 2.00, and there is no specific exception for the batter's box. The batter's actions are what causes interference and not necessarily where he is, as defined in Rule 6.06(c)(1), (2) and (3)

5. The ball is dead on a foul-tip.

AR: The ball is always live on a foul tip. Therefore runners may be put out or advance at their own risk. 2.00

6. The batter may not switch batter's boxes after two strikes.

AR: The batter may switch batter's boxes at any time while the ball is dead. The batter may only be called out for stepping from one batter's box to the other while the pitcher is in position ready to pitch. The number of balls or strikes on the batter is not relevant. 6.06(b)

**-Valerie Potts, Secretary ADA-
-Duped Into Online Payment-
"Don't Let This Happen to Your League"** details a real-world scenario, how it has impacted a league, and how you might learn from it.

The following is from Headquarters. The names have been omitted in the following scenario, but the situation is real.

Situation:

A local league Treasurer receives an email seemingly from the League President asking for her to pay for League equipment, baseballs, and softballs to the total of \$6,300. The Treasurer acts on the request, and pays the balance through the website link provided in the League President's email. At the next monthly meeting of the league's Board of Directors, the Treasurer presents the monthly financial report, highlighting each outlay of funds, including the payment of \$6,300. Not remembering authorization of a payment in that amount, the League President asks the Treasurer to provide the purchase order and receipt of payment, and has the Secretary check the minutes for approval. The Treasurer assumed the league's Purchasing Agent still had the paperwork, and the Treasurer did not think to print the payment receipt before clicking to authorize the payment. After reviewing the minutes from their last meeting, the Secretary confirmed there is no record of the Board approving a purchase in that amount.

Outcome:

After the meeting the Treasurer printed out the email for the League President to see. She realized that even though the League President's name was on the email, the email address did not match the League President's email address. The League President and Treasurer came to the realization that the email was a "spam scam" created to specifically deceive and defraud. Intent on recouping the loss, the local league attempted to file a crime insurance claim with its insurance carrier. Unfortunately for the league, neither a crime or cyber liability insurance policy would cover such a claim, because the funds were paid out voluntarily by the league.

Solution:

Cyber Liability Insurance underwriters referred to this circumstance as "Impersonation Fraud", but note that it is NOT covered by cyber liability insurance. Little League International's Risk Management and Finance Departments advise its local leagues to itemize all purchase orders, reconcile all purchases and provide receipts as part of the Treasurer's monthly financial report to the Board of Directors, and not allow any online orders in excess of \$200 to be paid without verbal confirmation by the Treasurer and League President. It is also imperative that anyone authorized to use and review the league's email account must pay close attention to all email solicitations. Do not open any emails from companies or individuals that seem suspicious, or that the league has not identified as a legitimate vendor of goods and services. Be diligent to use search engines such as Google, Bing, or Yahoo to research companies and names that are identified in any suspicious emails.

**-Carla Moore Softball ADA-
Softball Reminders --**

- April 17th was the official 2nd half start date for the Inter-League/Inter-District season.
- Regular softballs used for all levels.
- Pittsburg Little League will host the Annual Michelle Johnson Mid Season Classic on May 6th & 7th. Schedule TBA.



DA's Desk

-Parents FAQs-

Why does Little League have pitch count regulations for baseball?

The answer is simple -- to protect young arms. Player safety is paramount, and Little League is proud of the regulations put in place. The healthier Little Leaguers are, the more games they will play, which results in them having more fun with their friends. Pitch count rules differ for several divisions. Be sure to alert your team's manager if your child also pitches in another youth baseball program.

Can a player wear any jewelry on the field?

Players are not permitted to wear jewelry such as, but not limited to, rings, watches, earrings, bracelets, and necklaces. The only exception is jewelry that alerts medical personnel to a specific condition. Sunglasses are permitted.

Are pitchers allowed to wear arm sleeves?

A baseball pitcher can wear an arm sleeve, but it must be fully covered by an undershirt. And, any part of the pitcher's undershirt that can be seen must be a solid color, and the sleeves cannot be white or gray. A softball pitcher may wear an arm sleeve, but is not required to cover it. Also, a pitcher cannot wear any items on his/her hands, wrists, or arms which may be distracting to the hitter. So, if your child plays baseball and wants to use an arm sleeve on the mound, keep a long-sleeved dark-color undershirt on hand.

In Softball, is a face guard necessary on a helmet?

A face guard on a helmet, whether worn at the plate as a batter or as a safety precaution as a fielder, is optional.

Can players wear sunglasses on the top of their hat?

Yes.

-District 4 Volunteers At Work-

Thank you to Martinez Little League for hosting the adult Basic Umpire Clinic, which was rained out on March 5th and the new Junior Umpire Clinic at their Hidden Lake Complex in Martinez. There was combined attendance of 39 campers for the two clinics.

Special thanks to two League Presidents; Liz Berg for Concord American Little League and Valerie Potts for Pinole Hercules Little League. Liz provided and coached two teams for camp games and Valerie Potts picked up...organized...and cleaned up pizza lunch for hungry campers, players, and training staff.





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
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