



California District 4

November 14, 2017

Volume 28 Issue 1



California 4 Little League

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California D4 Finances

-November Statement-

Opening Balance	16,325.10
Thank You Dinner	755.48
September Dinner	236.64
2018 Congress Expense	337.96
Staff Dinner	74.48
Vendor Donations	950.00
District Dues	13,038.00
Bank Fees	3.00
Ending Balance	28,305.54



League Charters

The following leagues have submitted Charters for 2018

Alameda LL
 Albany LL
 Concord American LL
 Continental LL
 East County LL
 Lafayette LL
 Pinole Hercules LL

Charters should be applied for by 12/31. This also includes insurance for the 2018 campaign,



Junior/Senior/50/70 Baseball

I need the contact information for the person in your League that will coordinate

50/70, Junior and Senior baseball by the end of the November meeting. I have only heard from Walnut Creek, East County, Clayton Valley, Albany and Antioch so far. We will have a scheduling meeting in February for both Junior and 50/70 baseball so please send me the number of teams for each division by December 31 and let me know if you want to play with District 53 teams (Benicia, Vallejo, American Canyon) or just with other teams in D-4. If you don't have someone from your league attend the scheduling meeting, you will not be able to inter-league this year.



**From ADA Challengers,
Stephen Mohammed**

League Presidents**Please** forward the contact information for your League Challenger Representative to Stephen Mohammed, Sr. at pqinstall@sbcglobal.net.



From Don Waddell, ADA D4 UIC

-District 4 Umpire Training-

The C4UA Training Staff will offer several events to help leagues meet their needs for rules and umpire mechanics training. These clinics are the best way to get your umpires and other volunteers trained with instruction from experienced instructors who know the Little League methods.

Rules Clinics:

February 21st & 28th.

Two, 3 hour, classroom sessions. Clinic instructors will be knowledgeable in Little League rules. Perfect clinic for your managers, coaches, umpires, league officials, and others who want to know



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more about Little League Regulations and Playing Rules.

Field Mechanics Clinic:

February 10th. A half day clinic designed to teach adult volunteers the 2-umpire mechanics responsibilities and basic skills for the small diamond. The right clinic for new umpires and for those who want to prepare for the new season.

Junior Umpire Clinic:

March 4th. A full day clinic designed to prepare local league youth umpires for their responsibilities on and off the field. Clinic instruction will be tailored for youth learning needs.

NEW!! Big Diamond Mechanics Clinic:

Date to be determined. A half day clinic introducing the basics of working the 2 Umpire mechanics on the larger field for Intermediate, Junior and Senior Baseball. This is the perfect clinic for those umpires who are looking to grow their skills.

Tournament Umpire Clinic:

May 20th. A half day clinic to prepare local league umpires for California District 4 Tournament of Champions and International All-Star Tournaments.

Make sure these dates are on your League Calendar and are shared with your participants. Lewis Points are awarded to those leagues who have students participating in clinics.

NEW!!!!!!

Hosting Umpire Training Events:

The C4UA Training Staff needs the assistance of local leagues to host their District training events. The requirements for hosting are pretty simple:

For mechanics clinics:

- provide prepared fields with adequate seating in bleachers for students.
- Provide a simple lunch for the all day clinics.
- Help with finding a possible indoor space as backup for weather issues

For Rules Clinics:

- A large meeting room with seating for up to 100 students
- Room must be equipped with a projection screen and power

Please contact Don Waddell if your league would like to host a Rules or Field Clinic in 2018. Hosting a preseason training clinic is a Lewis Point item.

-Western Region Umpire Training-

The Western Region Center in San Bernardino has scheduled the following training opportunities for 2018. Registration is available on the Western Region website.

December 8-10, 2017
Umpire In Chief (Train The Trainer)

January 26-28, 2018
Rules Clinic #1

February 9-11, 2018
Advanced Rules Clinic #2

February 9-11, 2018
Field Mechanics Clinic

February 24-March 2, 2018
Umpire Academy



Things to Know From Little League®: November 2017

2018 Local League Resource Guide:

The 2018 Local League Resource Guide is on its way to you, if it hasn't reached your mailbox already! District Administrators are expected to receive an advanced copy of this year's Resource Guide by early November. Leagues will receive the Resource Guide after its

league officers are updated or confirmed for the 2018 season through the [Little League Data Center](#). A Local League Resource Guide will NOT be sent to a league until confirmation has been received by Little League International that all league officers have been updated. For online access to the Resource Guide, visit the "League Officials" tab on the Little League University website: [LittleLeagueU.org](#).

Little League® Newsletters and the Google Translator:

Each month, the Little League® Communications Department produces electronic newsletters for District Administrators, coaches and managers, local league officials, and parents. Every other month, a newsletter is delivered to umpires; and several times during the year, Little League's Risk Management Department partners with Musco Lighting Company to print and deliver the [ASAP \(A Safety Awareness Program\) newsletter](#). The monthly and ASAP newsletters are available on the Little League website. To receive any, or all, of the newsletter just [sign up](#). The Google translator feature on the top of the [LittleLeague.org](#) home page lets anyone enjoy the newsletters in a variety of languages.

League Audits:

Each local league is strongly encouraged to complete an annual independent audit of its financial statements. It is recommended that the audit be conducted by a local financial firm not associated with the league as a league sponsor. Once completed, a report is to be presented to the local league Board of Directors, and a copy filed with the District's Treasurer.





By Laws

Don't Let This Happen: Lack of Bylaws Governing Actions Detrimental to the League

At Little League® International in Williamsport, Pa., and at our Regional Offices, calls and emails come in all year long about situations that are happening at one of our 7,000 local leagues. Many of these calls and emails inform us of some very positive initiatives spearheaded by our millions of volunteers. However, there are also negative situations.

Bylaws are the operational backbone of any local league. Be sure your Board understands the role they play governing the league.

“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 names have been omitted in the following scenario, but the situation is real.

The Situation

In the bottom of the sixth inning, the score is tied, and there is a runner on third base, with one out. A batter hits a ground ball to the shortstop, and the runner on third breaks for home. The fielder gathers the ball, and throws home, where there is a close play at the plate. The umpire rules “Safe,” ending the game. Convinced the wrong call was made, the losing manager rushes out of the dugout, berates the

umpire, bumps him, and is quickly told to leave the field. He continues to rant about the call. An opposing coach tells him to calm down. The irate manager directs his anger toward him, and in front of the children and parents, threatens him physically.

The league’s Disciplinary Committee meets to discuss the incident. Being that this was the manager’s second involvement in a serious situation within the last three years, there’s an effort made by a group of parents to encourage the Committee to dismiss the manager from the league. The Disciplinary Committee begins to conduct an investigation, but the umpire is traveling, and unable to immediately meet with the Committee to present his first-hand account.

The earliest the Committee is able to schedule a meeting with the umpire is a Wednesday, several days after the incident. The manager to be disciplined and his team are scheduled to play a game on the day before the meeting. The league reviews its bylaws and learns that there is no procedure in place stating that the Disciplinary Committee has the ability to sanction or suspend a player, manager, or coach without a formal hearing. The Board tries to convene an emergency meeting, but there are not enough members present for the necessary quorum.

The manager, convinced he’ll be dismissed from the league, takes the field with his team on Tuesday. He grandstands, is verbally controversial with the opposing manager, taunts the umpire, and is kicked out of the game in the second inning. On his way to the parking lot, he gets into several arguments with parents. The police are called, and eventually escort him off the premises.

The Outcome

The League’s Disciplinary Committee, through due process, completed its investigation and presented its findings and recommendation to the full Board of Directors. Although the vote was not unanimous, by way of Board action, the manager was removed from the league for the remainder of the season, citing actions detrimental to the league. The League President also placed into the monthly meeting’s minutes a resolution, banning this individual from nomination consideration in future seasons. In review of this situation, and lack of specific pre-existing bylaws in the league’s Constitution, the Board of Directors also discussed, and eventually developed and adopted, guidelines that outline the role of the Disciplinary Committee and reserved authority to suspend a player, coach, or manager pending review and action by the Board of Directors.

Note to Leagues: In the instance that a local Board of Directors must exact any discipline for an incident occurring under the league’s jurisdiction, it is strongly recommended that the league Constitution and bylaws governing the parameters of the league’s authority be clearly explained. The league is responsible for this protocol, and the procedure must include due process, investigation by a designated group (i.e. – Disciplinary Committee, similar group, designees of the Board), a hearing of the findings, and a final process for disclosing and implementing one or more penalties.