



California District 4

October 17, 2017

Volume 27 Issue 2



California 4 Little League

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California D4 Finances

-October Statement-

Opening Balance	22,627.04
Western Region Travel Fund	1736.00
Lewis Cup Award	1750.00
Portable Toilet for Nor Cal Tourney	164.47
DA Travel	337.59
2018 Congress Expense	1869.68
Food For Nor Cal Luncheon	441.20
Bank Fee	3.00
Ending Balance	16,325.10



April Meehleder Named Little League® Western Region Director

Ms. Meehleder, has served as the Assistant Region Director since November 2016, takes over as Director following the retirement of Dave Bonham after 36 years of service to Little League.

"It is truly an honor and a wonderful opportunity to be named the Western Region Director," said Ms. Meehleder. "I am excited to work with such a dedicated and passionate group of volunteers in the West Region and I know we have a great future ahead of us."



Prior to heading out to San Bernardino as the Assistant Region Director, Ms.

Meehleder worked at Little League International Headquarters in South Williamsport, Pa., as a League Development Assistant Manager since June 2015 where she has helped expand Little League Baseball®, Little League Softball®, and the Little League Challenger Division® through efforts across the nation. As part of her work, Ms. Meehleder assisted in the on-boarding and chartering process for all new leagues in the United States, established new league best practices through work with current leagues, and helped develop Tee Ball training videos in coordination with local Tee Ball programs.

"April's experience working alongside Dave in San Bernardino, combined with her time spent at Little League Headquarters in Williamsport and dedication to the Little League program, has provided her with the knowledge and skills necessary to serve as a leader for the entire West Region," said Stephen D. Keener, Little League President and CEO. "We have the utmost confidence in April and are looking forward to the future of the West Region under her direction."

Alongside Assistant Western Region Director, Brian Pickering, Ms. Meehleder will administer districts, leagues, and volunteers throughout the region and will also oversee the Little League Softball West Region Tournament, as well as the Little League Baseball West and Northwest Region Tournaments. The Little League Western Region Headquarters Complex includes Al Houghton Stadium, a Little League Division size field that is used for the regional tournaments, and serves districts and local leagues in 11 states (Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming).



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A 2006 graduate of Eastern Michigan University with a Bachelor of Arts in Public Relations, Ms. Meehleder has also served as a customer service representative for Historic Square Agency (Erie, Pa.) from 2013-15, was the Executive Vice President of Business Development for Blue Vase Consulting and Learnscape GED (Camp Hill, Pa.) from 2010-13, was a Facility and Operations Executive Group Leader for the Target Distribution Center (Chambersburg, Pa.) from 2008-10, and served as a team leader for the AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (Perry Point, Md.) in 2007.

With the new position filled, Little League International will begin its search for a new Assistant Western Region Director. Applicants interested in the position should visit LittleLeague.org or email employment@LittleLeague.org.



Little League® International Mourns the Passing of Dr. Creighton J. Hale, Former Little League President and CEO

Little League® International is deeply saddened to announce the passing of Dr. Creighton J. Hale, a titan of the youth sports industry, accomplished safety innovator, and former President and CEO of Little League International. Dr. Hale (1924-2017), served as Little League President from 1973 to 1994, and was appointed Chief Executive Officer in 1983.

Dr. Hale, 93, joined Little League as the Director of Research in 1955. His research efforts led to innovations that changed the way the game of baseball was played, and his vision helped make Little League a fabric of neighborhoods and communities around the world. He was the second full-time President in the history of the organization, succeeding Peter J. McGovern. From 1994 to 2001, Dr. Hale served as special advisor to current Little League President and CEO, Stephen D. Keener. He announced his retirement from the Little League International Board of Directors in 2014, after 60 years with the organization.

"Little League would not be what it is today without the unequalled leadership of Dr. Hale," said Mr. Keener. "Through his 60-year tenure with Little League, his legacy is arguably one of the most important in the history of sports. Personally, I could not have asked for a more dedicated mentor and kind, thoughtful friend, and I will miss him deeply. We are forever grateful for Dr. Hale's lasting impact on our program, and for his leadership and counsel over these many years. During this difficult time, our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Beverly, as well as his children, family, and many friends."

Prior to joining Little League, Dr. Hale was an Associate Professor of Physiology at Springfield (Mass.) College. He earned degrees from Colgate University, Springfield College, and New York University. Originally from Hardy, Neb., Dr. Hale's research and innovations in the games of baseball and softball led to the development of the double ear-flap batter's helmet, catcher's helmet, chest protector with throat guard, and the non-wood baseball bat. As Little League President and CEO, he oversaw vast expansion of the Little League program domestically and abroad, the inclusion of girls in the Little League program, the creation of Little League

Softball® and the Little League Challenger Division®, and provided millions of children the opportunity to play baseball and softball.

"My father and I had the greatest admiration for Dr. Creighton Hale and we both served as Trustees on the Little League Foundation Board," said Peter O'Malley, former longtime Los Angeles Dodgers owner and President. "Dr. Hale was a pioneer and his vision to innovate equipment for safety was internationally recognized. His passion for growing inner-city baseball was instrumental in giving more children an opportunity to enjoy playing our national pastime. Our thoughts are with Mrs. Hale and their family."

In addition to his advances in safety equipment for baseball and softball, Dr. Hale served as chairman of the military committee that oversaw the development of the Kevlar helmet, as well as the lightweight bullet-proof vest. Through his accomplishments, Dr. Hale received countless honors both locally in the Williamsport community, and nationally, from USA Baseball, the White House, the American College of Sports Medicine, and more. Under Presidents Dwight D. Eisenhower and Richard Nixon, Dr. Hale served on the President's Council for Youth Fitness.

"Dr. Hale was an inspiration; he was the consummate gentleman and a leader in his field of science, youth sports and Little League in particular," said Davie Jane Gilmour, Ph.D., Little League International Board of Directors Chairman. "My life is more rich for the time we spent together laughing, thinking and looking to the future."

He was a Charter Fellow of the American College of Sports Medicine, and a Presidential Appointee to the White House Conference for a Drug-Free



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America. Dr. Hale was the published author of nearly 30 research articles.

Dr. Hale is survived by his wife, Beverly and his children, Tad (Jenny) Hale and Kathy Dumanis. Also surviving Dr. Hale are 10 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. He is predeceased by his son, Timothy, and parents, Russell and Anita.



Things to Know From Little League®: October 2017

Each month, Little League® International is providing a quick look at important information and events for the month ahead. We invite you to review and share with your colleagues and friends. Another great resource for keeping up to date on Little League's latest training and educational efforts is **Little League University**. Designed for volunteers, league and District Administrators, coaches, and parents, this free website is a wonderful portal for experiencing and learning about the Little League.

Important Reminders for Local League Operations

As we begin getting ready for the 2018 season, Little League has put together a list of things that local leagues should be considering this month, and some resources from **Little League University** to help guide the way. For these tips, as well as additional information, be sure to visit LittleLeagueU.org and continue to check out the Little League Bulletin Board in the **Little League Notebook** each month.

- Understand what to plan for with the Operational Guide for Local Little League Programs
- Starting in mid-October, leagues can begin chartering online for 2018 season through the Data Center
- Review local league constitutions and bylaws
- Start preparation for annual local league elections
- Understand how to use Little League Trademarks as you prepare materials for next year
- Begin budgeting for 2018 insurance costs to avoid a lapse in coverage
- Review these financial tips to ensure fiscal awareness, accountability, and transparency for your league/district
- Use this Volunteer Recruitment Worksheet to help retain volunteers for next season



USA Baseball Launches USABat.com to Provide Answers for 2018 USABat Standard

With the implementation of the new **USA Baseball Bat Standard** quickly approaching on January 1, 2018, USA Baseball has launched a new website (USABat.com) that provides a detailed list of approved bats under the new standard, as well as some additional FAQs to help understand the change. Any additional questions regarding the USABat Standard can be sent to USABat@USABaseball.com.



Find New Ways to Promote Little League Registration and Increase Awareness

It's never too early to start thinking about your next Little League season, and what better time than to get a jump on registration for the next year. There are plenty of fun ways to promote your local Little League, and share the variety of reasons why being a part of the program can be an influential part of a child's life.

Little League Alumni Lookout – MLB Playoffs

October is one of the most exciting times in baseball, as the Major League Baseball playoffs start to heat up. In honor of the MLB postseason, check out some of the notable Little Leaguers that have played in both the Little League Baseball World Series and the MLB. Also, be sure to check out LittleLeague.org to find a list of Little League alumni who are participating in the 2017 MLB Playoffs.





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Oakland A's/Little League Game Dates

Sunday, April 22nd vs. Boston Red Sox

Sunday, May 6th vs. Baltimore Orioles

Special group tickets come with a pregame festival and on-field parade. Discount ticket pricing will become available towards the end of the month, at which point we will follow up again. Feel free to reach out directly if you have any questions in the meantime.

***A's Third Baseman Matt Chapman was a Little Leaguer!**

Looking forward to hosting you out here for another great Little League Day in 2018!

Alissa Persichetti
510-563-2281
apersichetti@athletics.com



From ADA Challengers, Stephen Mohammed

League PresidentsPlease 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. 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.

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 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.

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.

-Contact Information-

League Presidents.....Please forward the contact information for your League Chief Umpire to Don Waddell. We have 7

new league chief umpires out of 14 leagues in District 4. It is important to bring the new LCUs up to speed on proper training of their volunteers and responsibilities of LCUs during post season tournaments.

-Western Region Umpire Training-

The Western Region Center in San Bernardino has scheduled the following training opportunities for 2018.

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



From Liz Berg, ADA Safety

On-line Charter Registration will be available on October, 17th. The updated ASAP templates will be available on October 21st. If you plan to "update" last year's plan, please be sure to include the new concussion requirements and the 2018 Bat Rules.