



California District 4

September 19, 2018

Volume 29 Issue 1



California 4 Little League

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California D4 Finances

-September Statement-

Opening Balance	42,673.72
Challenger Jamboree (Supplies, Toilets, Food, Truck, Tables/Chairs, Carnival)	3,556.10
Verification Day Supplies/Expenses	964.80
April Dinner	469.50
D4 Storage	748.00
D4 Line-Up Cards	408.90
DA Travel (May & June)	546.24
Post Season and Jamboree Awards	15,068.21
Post Season Banners	1,957.99
Western Region DA Travel Fund	100.00
Challenger Jamboree Donations (Alameda, NOLL/SOLL)	1,000.00
Pin Purchase	500.00
Oakland A's Tickets	1,000.00
Bank Fees (June, July, August, September)	12.00
New Portable Scanner	99.00
Bracket Printing	41.33
May Dinner	921.11
Book Printing	1,196.25
Oakland A's Tickets	240.00
Oakland A's Tickets	215.00
Western Region Donation	500.00
Umpire Expenses	768.30
Section & NorCal Pins	626.75
Oakland A's Tickets	600.00
Umpire Expenses (WRLLUAA)	250.00
Ending Balance	17,514.24

season. Most leagues have elected their board of directors for the 2019 campaign and several of them have new presidents taking the reins. At the end of September our current fiscal year will come to an end. Taxes for this past season need to be filed by Jan. 15, 2019.

I would like to welcome Steve Harris to the District staff. Steve is the past president of Continental Little League. He will be heading the Little League Baseball division this season. Marco Rosen is moving to head the teenage baseball division with the departure of David Preuss after 9 years of service to the District board.

All current staff and the league president information can be found on the handout "Staff and League Presidents" sent to the league presidents online. The District 4 website is www.llcad4.org. Here you can find the latest news and keep track of tournaments. League boundaries and links to local league websites are also available.

District 4 will host 8 meetings this year (Sept. – Nov. and Jan. – May) to keep our league presidents and members of our local leagues informed. Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings. I encourage league presidents to attend each one and if you cannot make it, be sure to send another board member in your place. Each league is required to attend 5 of the meetings to be eligible for the Tournament of Champions at the end of the season. Additionally, we will have special training for umpires, managers, and coaches throughout the season.

The Western Regional headquarters (located in San Bernardino) also holds various clinics. You can get the most up to date information by visiting their website www.littleleague.org/region/west-region.



Welcome to the 2019 Season

While technically the 2018 season ends with the month of September it is the time we as a District staff begin to plan for the upcoming

We will give up to date information regarding new rules and equipment requirements as they are passed on to us from our



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headquarters in Williamsport. The Little League website is www.littleleague.org.

Any area of concern that you might have can be shared with your fellow leagues and hopefully a solution will be presented to help you and your league. Feel free to share any information you find pertinent and do not hesitate to ask for help. The District staff has over 150 years of service to Little League and has seen just about anything imaginable.

I and the staff look forward to another fabulous year of Little League Baseball and Softball.

Volunteers make Little League Great.

Ted Boet

District Administrator California District 4

entire field built and dedicated for the players of the Challenger division. Ron is also a proud supporter of hosting games both within the District tournaments, as well as hosting Northern California Little League events. In 2017, Ron and Alameda Little League were the first league in District 4 to have lights installed on their Major League field. All of us here in District 4 are grateful for Ron's support of the Little League program.

He truly exemplifies "Volunteers make Little League Great!"



From Geoff Shiu

Fall Ball --

Chartered leagues operating a Fall Ball or Training & Development programs this year are reminded that volunteers during the regular season do NOT need to complete another background check for Fall Ball...however new volunteers for Fall Ball this year are required to complete a background check before assuming any Fall Ball responsibilities. Completed background checks are to be securely stored and social security numbers "Blacked Out".

Contact Information –

League Presidents, please keep your personal contact information current with Geoffrey Shiu. Very important for leagues to maintain current contact information as more leagues are including District Interleague Play as part of their regular season. Please also appoint a league officer to also receive regular messages that are sent to you. Forward league officer's email address to Geoffrey Shiu.



Volunteer Spotlight

Each meeting throughout the 2019 season we will shine a light on a dedicated volunteer.

Our first volunteer that we would like to thank for years of dedicated service is Ron Matthews.

Ron is the standard bearer for our league presidents as he is beginning his 15 year as president of Alameda Little League. Under his leadership, Alameda continues to be one of the leaders within California District 4. There are over 800 children participating in Little League Baseball in Alameda. In addition to baseball, Alameda has added a Challenger team and last season had an

Due Date Items for October 16th --

- Copy of 2017 Tax Return to Ted
- League Officers Contact information to the following ADAs
- League Safety Officer to Liz Berg
- League UIC to Don Waddell
- Challenger Director to Stephen Mohammed
- Softball Director to Phil Raines
- Little League Director to Steve Harris
- Teenage Baseball Director to Marco Rosen
- Board of Directors Contact Info to Carla Moore



League Charters

Charters should be applied for by 12/31. This also includes insurance for the 2019 campaign,



From ADA Challengers, Stephen Mohammed

League PresidentsPlease forward the contact information for your League Challenger Representative to Stephen Mohammed, Sr. at pginstall@sbcglobal.net.



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Little League & Senior League Softball

League PresidentsPlease forward the contact information for your Softball Representative to Phil Raines at Praines22@yahoo.com



Little League Baseball

League PresidentsPlease forward the contact information for your Little League Baseball Representative to Steve Harris at stevejoeharris@gmail.com.



50/70/Junior/Senior Baseball

Welcome back to teenage baseball, Intermediate, Junior & Senior Baseball. I am stepping into this position after being the ADA for LLBB. As a newer ADA I would like to take this time to congratulate the two teams that made it to Western Regionals and represented not only their league but also our District 4 on the field. Those two teams are NOLL/SOLL Juniors and NOLL/SOLL Seniors. I got the chance to see the seniors play in their second game up at American River College in Sacramento. They were up against a tough team and were able to squeeze out a win. I

did however go down to San Jose for the junior tournament but NOLL/SOLL was not playing that day. I know this takes a lot of effort from the managers and coaches dedicating lots of time to both teams and I wanted to say Thank you for your time and volunteering efforts. Let's not forget there are many others that help make this happen. Thanks to all of these people as well, also the parents for taking time to travel to district, sections, state and regional tournaments.

Moving into the 2019 BB year there are some areas I would like to focus on. I would like to see more leagues with teams play in our district before playing in other districts. Here are the areas of focus for this coming year:

- Mandatory pre – season Teenage baseball meeting October date and time TBD. Each league playing in any of the teenage divisions needs to be present. Ideal to have the division coordinator or other person representing. We will be covering inter-district playing rules as well as other mandatory play in district.
- District play for all 3 divisions
- Pre-Season "Sand Lot"
- District Scheduling of games for Intermediate & Junior Division, Date, time and place TBD.
- Mid-season Weekend tournament for Intermediate Division, with guest teams
- Mid-season Tournament for Junior Division, with guest teams.
- TOC
- All Star Play

Please have your division coordinators send me their contact information. If they are returning heads or new. If they have coaching staff already in place then I would like their contact information as well.

I look forward to hearing from all of you and your division coordinators. If there is

anything I can help out with please let me know.

Email is best to correspond with me: marco@llcad4.org or cell 925-334-0974

Marco Rosen
ADA Intermediate/Junior/Senior Baseball



From Don Waddell, ADA D4 UIC

League Chief Umpire Information to Don Waddell

League Presidents are asked to provide the names and contact information for their league Chief Umpires as soon as possible. There is much information to communicate and it is important it gets to the correct person.

District 4 Umpire Program for 2014 - Training and Development

New opportunities for training your umpires for the coming season! The District 4 Umpire staff is offering the following training clinics for your umpires this year. We are looking for leagues who are willing to host our clinics!

Please note the dates and add them to your League Calendars:

Basic Umpire Mechanics Clinic - Sunday, February 10 and Saturday, March 2. Half day introduction to umpire mechanics with practice for all new umpires and those who want some refresher.

Big Diamond Mechanics Clinic - Sunday, March 10. Half day covering Intermediate, Junior and Senior baseball umpire Mechanics.

Junior Umpire Clinic - Sunday, February 24. 6 hour clinic for teen aged umpires only. This clinic will be the one to send your youth to so they can get started right as an umpire.



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District 4 Staff Will Run Your League Rules Clinic

New for this season, our District 4 qualified Rules Instructors will come to your league and deliver a 3 hour Rules Clinic! The clinic will utilize standard Little Leagues rules and rule interpretations, and will have limited time to cover your local rules. Simplify what you need to do and use our Staff for your manager, coach and umpire rules training! All the league must provide is a meeting room with a projection screen, power, Rule Books for your students, and any refreshments. First come first serve on reserving dates.

Western Region Umpire Training Clinics

The Western Region offers several umpire training clinics each year at the Region Headquarters in San Bernardino. The following clinics are being offered this year: Umpire in Chief/Train the Trainer Clinic - November 9-11, 2018. This is the clinic that all League Chief Umpires, new or experienced should attend. Content will cover the role of the Chief Umpire and how to recruit, train, reward and retain umpires.

Rules Clinics - Two sessions January 18-19 or February 22-24

Little League rules and regulations for all league Official's and umpires.

Weekend Mechanics Clinic – February 22-24

Basic umpires Mechanics over two days. Base and plate mechanics are covered.

Weeklong Umpire Academy – February 9-15

Intensive week long training covering rules, mechanics, game management.

Registration for clinics will open on October 1, 2018. Clinics are very popular and may

sell out quickly so don't delay. Go to the following web link on October 1 to access registration information:

<https://www.littleleague.org/Region/west-Region/>



The Story of the Little League® Patch

On a warm March day during MLB Spring Training in Scottsdale, Ariz., more than 2,250 miles away from Williamsport, Pa., former Longview (Wash.) Little Leaguer® and current Colorado Rockies manager Bud Black came across a Little League® Patch and could barely contain his excitement.

"I love that! It throws me back to my time in Longview and great memories," said Mr. Black. "It's iconic, it really is. Whoever came up with that did a great job and that lives on forever."

The white, eight-sided keystone shape complete with a diamond field and banners depicting text of each Little League division now represents the world's largest youth sports organization. Carl Stotz, who founded Little League in Williamsport, came up with this patch after first creating it as a logo in the late 1940s. Mr. Stotz pitched the idea to his family and decided on the keystone shape. Although it has undergone some minor updates in its lifetime, the original intent for the patch has lived on.

"I think one of the cool things about it is that it's a keystone," said Lance Van Auken, Little League Vice President and Executive Director of the World of Little League® Museum. "Pennsylvania is the Keystone State, but you have to understand what a keystone is. It's the part above a door that helps to keep the house together. And to

me, Little League is one of those things that helps keep a community together."

While the Keystone State is well represented on the patch, some Little Leaguers who have gone on to the big leagues find the patch represents much more.

"It represents sportsmanship, trying your best," said 2017 National League Manager of the Year, Arizona Diamondbacks manager Torey Lovullo. "It represents putting on your uniform at six o'clock in the morning on a Saturday and waiting until your parents got up so they could run you to the ballpark, so you could play in a game. And then never coming out of that uniform until your parents took you out of it to take a shower on Saturday night."

"[The patch] brings back a lot of memories of having fun with my friends," said 2004 Little League Baseball Northwest Region Champion and 2017 MLB All-Star, Michael Conforto. "It just feels like the beginning of the path [to the majors]. That's kind of the seed that's planted. You're really young [in Little League] and you don't really know what you want to do with your life. All my decisions after that were lined up to get to where I am now."

The Little League patch is now a mandatory piece of every Little League uniform. Not only does wearing the patch confirm that a Little Leaguer is playing for a legitimate Little League, it also renders leagues that do not have patches as unofficial.

"I remember when you get it and you first get your jersey and you have to steam it on because to play Little League, you have to have that on there," said three-time National League All-Star Nolan Arenado.

"When there's no patch on a uniform, it could be any program, or it could be no program at all," said Mr. Van Auken. "Even if it's just the shape, that keystone shape, on a kid's left



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shoulder, people recognize it as something special, part of a greater whole."

Local League Resource Guide for League Officials

The Local League Resource Guide provides information that will assist in the day-to-day management of your league. All of the content has been designed and produced to help train, educate, strengthen and even grow your league. The how-to-guides, FAQs, videos, and documents all highlight best practices that local leagues can use to improve operations, marketing, risk management and finances throughout the year.

Best Practices for Training Little League® Coaches

Being a Little League® coach has a similar learning curve to the players they are mentoring. To assist volunteers choosing to coach for the first time or return for another season in the dugout, there are plenty of ways to prepare for the coming season and through the year.

These best practices can assist anyone interested in learning on their own, or as a group with the support of local leadership. The role coaches play in whether Little Leaguers enjoy their experiences is vital, and coaches training is essential for a successful program.

A local league, and specifically the members serving on the Board of Directors, is responsible for encouraging its volunteer base to consider serving as coaches or team managers. This annual task become easier when volunteers know that their efforts will be supported by structured education and training sessions.

Best Practices for Training Little League Coaches Little League University

Little League International strongly encourages all its leagues use the materials currently available on Little League's training and education website, [Little League University](http://LittleLeagueUniversity). Little League University features a [Coaches tab](#) that offers an assortment of coaches training materials for all levels of the Little League program, including the complete Tee Ball and Coach Pitch curriculum downloads. If visitors to this free website do not specifically find information or direction, please email support@LittleLeague.org and place **Suggested LLU Content** in the subject line. In the email, you are invited to suggest topic(s) and the format (article, video, graphic, other) by which you would like see this information presented.

Coaching Coordinator Organizing Curriculum

The typical local league Board of Directors has an individual (Coaching Coordinator) or committee of volunteers (Division Vice Presidents) that is responsible for educating approved coaches. Commonly, a single in-service type of meeting is scheduled prior to the start of a league's preseason to provide specific materials to coaches, review new playing rules and regulations, outline effective practice plans, answer general questions, and establish the line of communication from the teams to the Board. In a well-run league, the Coaching Coordinator and/or Division Vice Presidents plan a training curriculum that is executed during the weeks that include player tryouts and draft, and preseason practices; and features weekly meetings.

Communication

It is imperative that coaches and managers do not feel isolated from the league. The best practice for any new coach or manager

is to speak with someone with experience. Regular communication, which can come in the form of simple weekly check-ins via in-person meeting, email, text, social media messaging, video call, etc., are of great value to newer coaches and managers.

Mentor Program

If a league does have coaches with multiple years of experience, establish a mentoring program to allow the less-seasoned volunteers to be introduced to, and become familiar with, coaching nuances such as how to develop practice plans, gameday routines, and a successful rapport with their players. If not, reach out to the local high school, college, or university baseball and softball program, and inquire if a member

of one of those programs would be willing to visit the league to conduct a clinic or seminar.

Regular Season Review

Local leagues have an individual(s) that is/are responsible for the operation of each division during the regular season. This person/staff serves as the training liaison and is in place to provide oversight and support to coaches, answer questions, and assess how well the manager and coaches of the teams in that division are fulfilling the goals of the league and the Little League mission.

Manager and Coach Survey

The Coaching Coordinator and/or Division Vice Presidents are encouraged to collect feedback from the players and their families. Provide the parents/legal guardians with access to a survey (printed or electronic) where the manager and coaches are reviewed. These opinions and their perception of the experiences during the regular season often provide substantial direction for the league when it comes time to consider



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volunteers for selection as tournament coaches, or potential Board members. As important, these responses often help to identify what areas of education need to be enhanced or added for the coming season.



Positive Coaching Alliance

In partnership with Little League International, Positive Coaching Alliance (positivecoach.org) has many resources geared toward youth sports coaches and managers. Free and available online and on Little League University, many of the materials, lessons, and educational messages are adaptable, regardless of what sport is featured. A few minutes searching the PCA website or reviewing the PCA content on Little League University is time well spent.

Recap of the 2018 Tournament Season

Tournament of Champions

Baseball

- AA - NOLL
- AAA – Walnut Creek LL
- Major – Antioch LL
- 50/70 – Martinez LL
- Junior – East County LL

Softball

- AAA – East County LL
- Major – Martinez LL
- Senior – Antioch LL

Section Champions

Baseball

- Junior – NOLL/SOLL
- Senior – NOLL/SOLL

Softball

- 8-10 – East County LL
- Little League – Martinez LL

District 4 All Stars

Baseball

- 8-10 – Albany LL
- 9-11 – Lafayette LL
- Little League – Antioch LL
- 50/70 – Alameda LL
- Junior - NOLL/SOLL
- Senior – NOLL/SOLL

Softball

- 8-10 – East County LL
- 9-11 – East County LL
- Little League – Martinez LL
- Senior – Antioch LL

Northern California Champions

Baseball

- Junior – NOLL/SOLL
- Senior – NOLL/SOLL

Softball

- Little League – Martinez LL
- Senior – Antioch LL

Future Stars Baseball

- 8-10 – Alameda LL
- 9-11 – Alameda LL