



# California District 4



January 18, 2022

Volume 31 Issue 4



## California 4 Little League

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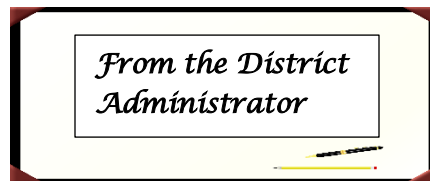
## California D4 Finances

### November-January Balance

Beginning Balance 55,781.32

Bank Fee 3.00

Ending Balance 55,778.32



## Tax Exempt Status Reminder:

Each local league and district is responsible for submitting a federal tax return to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Any non-profit organization that does not file the proper 990 Form with the IRS for three consecutive years automatically loses its **federal tax exemption** resulting in the organization's income becoming taxable and contributors being unable to report their contributions as tax deductions. For leagues which ended the fiscal year on September 30, 2021, the **filing deadline** is February 15, 2022.

- Please be sure to check with your state and file the appropriate state forms, if required. If you need additional information, you can contact Becky Bassett, at: 570-326-1921, ext. 2228; or email: [BBassett@LittleLeague.org](mailto:BBassett@LittleLeague.org).

## Obtaining a tax exempt letter for purposes of new California Law

In order to enroll in the new California program for fingerprinting volunteers each league must present with their application your Federal Tax-Exempt notice. This would have been issued most likely through headquarters as most leagues operate under the group exemption granted by the IRS to Little League. There is a good chance your league is no longer in possession of this paperwork. You can obtain a copy of this necessary paperwork by emailing Becky Bassett ([bbassett@litttleleague.org](mailto:bbassett@litttleleague.org)) at headquarters. This is the same person your league is supposed to forward your yearly return. Below is the information she will need to help you and your league.  
League ID #; League Name  
League's federal EIN issued by the IRS (bank accounts and tax filings would be under it)  
League officer contact information for who they should be sent to.

If your league is not under the Little League umbrella, she will notify you and what steps you may need to take.

## New Patches Will Replace Old One Over Time

Baseball, Softball, and Challenger – Rule 1.11 (a)(2); Policy: The Official Shoulder Patch. Updates the Little League Official Patch to reflect that new for 2022, Little League International has established a new, unified patch that reflects all levels of the program. This patch, which matches our new Little League logo, can be used, regardless of the division of play, on your league's uniforms. "Rocker patches" that can go above the new patch for all divisions and roles will also be available, for those who wish to add those distinctions to your uniforms. If your league still has patches that have been previously purchased, you do not need to replace those patches, and limited quantities of our previous patches are still available, while supplies last. Additional information can be found at [LittleLeague.org/Patch](http://LittleLeague.org/Patch).



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From ADA Little League Baseball,  
Don Mayjoffo

## Safety Plans & Registration

Please complete and send in your Safety Plans, it's important to your league and our district. Hope all going well with sign ups, let's get as many children in our program as possible. At this point please start making schedules for this coming season, if any league is having trouble filling in games, please contact me. If your league wants to play in your league only and another league contacts you please help them. Thank you



From ADA Big Diamond Baseball,  
Grayson Lawrence

For the upcoming Little League baseball season, we had to change dates for two Teenage Baseball meetings. Please note the new dates below and that both meetings will be conducted via Zoom.

- 2/09/22 7:00pm (Wed): 50/70 and Juniors Scheduling Meeting  
Location: Zoom Meeting  
[Registration Link](#)
- 2/28/22 7:00pm (Mon): Teenage Baseball Rules Clinic.  
Location: Zoom Meeting  
[Registration Link](#)

Zoom invites will be sent closer to the dates of each meeting.

The D4 Teenage Baseball specific calendar has been updated to reflect the changes: [tinyurl.com/d4teenagebb](http://tinyurl.com/d4teenagebb)



From Liz Berg, ADA Safety

## ASAP

It's been a tough couple of years and we may be a bit rusty or unsure on all that is needed in order to just play ball already! It is each league's responsibility to ensure that our players are safe. This means that we have a plan in place should an emergency occur AND that those put in charge of our players are approved and trained to do so.

As of Jan. 17th, the following leagues have not submitted their ASAP plans: Albany, Antioch, Lafayette, Pittsburg, Pinole-Hercules, and Richmond. Please remember that only leagues with approved ASAP plans are permitted to hold tryouts with players and/or volunteers on their fields. Please make sure that either you, as president or your league safety officer, completes the ASAP process immediately. If you have questions, please contact me.

In addition, all volunteers are required to have the following completed before having access to players: Background Check (preferably by JDP), Concussion Awareness, Sudden Cardiac Arrest, and Mandated Reporter training certificates, and the new LiveScan fingerprint requirement.

**The application process for LiveScan can take some time for approval so please apply as soon as possible.**



From Jim Rose – Training Coordinator

## Rules Clinics 2022

So far, we have confirmed two Rules Clinics for 2022. One will be for Big Diamond coaches and managers, and the other for Softball managers, coaches, and umpires. Dates, times, and formats to be announced.

If individual leagues want their own Rules Clinic for their umpires and/or coaches, please contact me.

If there is interest, we can also put on Rules Clinics for the District on Zoom.



From ADA D4 UIC, Don Waddell

## Rule Changes

Attached is a PDF with the 2022 Rule Updates

## District 4 Umpire Training Clinics

Your District 4 Umpire Training Staff is offering three training opportunities for you league umpires –

### Basic Umpire Mechanics Clinic –

This clinic is the introduction to umpiring on the 60 foot diamond. The clinic is to be run inside your league to meet the needs of your umpires. The District 4 Staff will help you design the proper clinic, provide some training equipment if needed, and help staff your clinic with instructors. Contact Don Waddell if you are in need of help with your League Umpire Clinic.



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## Advanced Umpire Mechanics Clinic –

This clinic is designed for those experienced umpires who want to build upon their past training and experience to improve skills and knowledge. Organized and delivered by the District 4 Umpire Staff, instruction will focus on Positioning for the Right Call, Working in Two Umpire Crews, and Advanced Plate Mechanics.

The clinic is on Sunday, February 27 at Pinole Hercules Little League.

Pre-registration is required at the following link -

[Advanced Umpire Mechanics Clinic](#)

## Junior Umpire Clinic –

A special one day umpire clinic just for your teenage umpires. Instruction will focus on the Basics of Umpiring on the Small Diamond, but we will also cover working with a partner, plate umpire skills, and proper equipment. Open to all Junior Umpires.

The clinic is Sunday, March 6 at

Martinez Little League.

Pre-registration is required at the following link - [Junior Umpire Clinic](#)

## League Help Needed With Clinics

The District 4 Umpire Staff needs your assistance to make sure our clinics are the best they can be. We need teams of players who will participate in live scrimmage drills with our student umpires at our clinics. Just like an extra practice – your team would be able to run bases, field balls and make plays in a controlled action situation. Teams are needed in the afternoon sessions on both dates, from about 1230 to 330 p.m. You must provide your own equipment including batting helmets etc. If you can help out please contact Don Waddell.

## Little League Umpire Registry Available to Support Continued Development

Encourage your volunteer umpires to continue developing their knowledge and skills while the season is on hold by joining the Little League Umpire Registry. This is the online home for all Little League umpires and contains an extensive library of rule interpretations, umpire mechanic training videos, access to publications, and links to equipment. Registering is free and easy. Access the Registry at:

<https://www.littleleagueumpire.org/>

## Junior Umpire Program

Several leagues in California 4 have Junior Umpire programs that involves teenage boys and girls umpiring baseball and softball games. This is an excellent way to keep interested players more involved during their playing season and for Little League graduates to stay in the game after they have completed their playing career.

### 12 Elements...for a successful Junior Umpire Program

1. 100% Board of Directors support
2. An Adult Supervised Program
3. A Leadership Development Program
4. Ump for Community Service points.
5. Register umpires for California 4 training opportunities
6. Provide Umpire Mentors
7. Register umpires with the local league for insurance coverage
8. Submit Little League Volunteer Applications with Parental Signature
9. Provide Distinct Umpire Hat and league protective equipment.
10. Allow umpires to earn personal umpire uniform and equipment
11. Local league adheres to government Tax and Employment Laws if umpires are paid
12. Have an End of Season Appreciation Event with fun Awards.

## Reminder on Umpire Approval and Use of Paid Umpires

All umpires who provide repetitive service to your league must be appointed by the League President and approved by the Board of Directors by vote at a board meeting. The process must include the individual completing a Volunteer Application and having a nationwide criminal background check performed. Approval is not transferable League to League, so make sure those umpires from other leagues are approved. Umpires assigned from an association, even if paid, must also go through the approval process. Do not rely upon the assignor telling you he performed the background check. We recommend you have a written contract with the assignor, laying out game rate, payment methods, etc. If you choose to hire umpires, this is a business relationship and should be handled as such. If you are paying umpires, we suggest your Board address issues related to employment, taxation and insurance, especially with recent changes in California law regarding classification of independent contractors and employees. If an individual who performs umpire duties is under control of the League which dictates and provides uniforms, location and time of work, specific training on local conditions, and is subject to suspension by the Board may be considered an employee. While youth sports officials may be exempt from workman's compensation, being an employee subjects the league to wage schedule concerns such as allowable hours, overtime, work permits for youth, etc. Also, IRS Rules might require tax withholding and other payments. Even if deemed to be Independent Contractors you may have 1099 payment reporting requirements. We recommend your Board get advice from your league CPA or others. Remember that Little League accident and general liability insurance is for volunteers, not for employees.