



# California District 4

November 14, 2023

Volume 33 Issue 3



## California 4 Little League

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## California D4 Finances

### September Balance

**Beginning Balance \$45,194.70**

Storage Fee: Oct 2023 – 2024 **2521.00**

September Dinner **475.63**

Donation to Camacho Family **1,000.00**

Roundtable Hotel **199.43**

West Region Sr. BB Tournament **1,899.77**

Umpire Clothing

CA D4 Manual Printing **1,297.89**

Storage Unit (Racks, Lock, Lights) **597.79**

Pre-Season Staff Meeting **235.06**

Breakfast

Bank Fee – October **3.00**

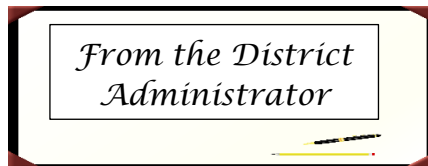
Farm Bureau Hall Rental **150.00**

West Region Sr. BB Tournament **100.00**

Donation

Vendor Donation **29.75**

**Ending Balance 36,944.88**



## 2023 Lewis Cup Award Finals

Martinez 4145

East County 3650

Walnut Creek 3603

North Oakland/South Oakland 3520

Alameda 3452

Pinole Hercules 3307

Lafayette 3170

Concord American 2851

Clayton Valley 2715

Albany 2450

Richmond 2342

Pittsburg 2210

## Chartering for 2024 is Now Open

In order to maintain your insurance at the beginning of the new calendar year each league must Charter and pay for insurance prior to December 31, 2023.

The following leagues still need to Charter for the new season:

Albany  
East County  
Lafayette  
Martinez  
North Oakland/South Oakland  
Pinole Hercules  
Pittsburg

The following leagues have still not confirmed their league Board of Directors:

Albany  
East County  
Martinez  
Pittsburg



## Volunteer Thank You Dinner Awards

### Volunteers of the Year from:

|                     |                |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Alameda             | Jim Quilici    |
| East County         | Kelly Edwin    |
| Martinez            | Jim Higgins    |
| North/South Oakland | Angela Noury   |
| Pinole Hercules     | Sakara Sampson |
| Richmond            | Martel Bates   |

### 2023 Bob Beberg Award

Jose "Pep" Roa

### 2023 Ron Matthews Award

Arnold Lum

### 2023 Ernie Lewis Award

Phil Davis



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From ADA Big Diamond Baseball,  
Grayson Lawrence

## Senior Baseball

As with last season, District 4 will be Hosting the Senior Baseball West Region Tournament in Oakland in July, which the Winner of this tournament goes on to the Senior Baseball World Series in South Carolina. The host district gets an Automatic bid into the tournament, so the Winner of the District 4 Senior Baseball All-Stars will play in the West Region tournament. The runner-up of this district tournament will go onto the Section tournament, still with a chance to make it to the Region tournament. This is a great opportunity for your league to field a Senior Baseball team!

## Key Dates

Here are some pre-season key dates:

- 2/15/24, 7pm (Thu): 50/70 and Juniors Scheduling Meeting

**Location:**

UC Extension, 2380 Bisso Ln, Concord

**Attendees:**

Managers for each team, or a Rep who can schedule games on behalf

- 2/21/24, 7pm (Wed): Teenage Baseball Rules Clinic

**Location:**

Zoom Meeting

**Attendees:**

At least 1 manager/coach from Each teenage baseball team in the District



From ADA D4 UIC, Don Waddell  
Helping to Train Your  
League Umpires

The first step to a strong umpire program is to recruit your umpires. We recommend that you have a mix of adult umpires who volunteer their time, and a cadre of youth umpires. Once recruited, you need to get them into a uniform and trained. The District 4 Staff Umpires will help your league put on an umpire training clinic that fits your umpires. We will help you design the content and duration of your clinic, and provide assistance with instruction and training tools. Staff availability is limited and there are only a few dates that will make for a successful clinic so we encourage early planning.

For you more advanced umpires who want more training or an update on their skills, they should attend the District 4 Umpire Clinic on February 25th where more time will be spent on key mechanics..

If you are interested in arranging help from the Staff Umpires, please contact Don Waddell. Contact info on the front of the newsletter.

## C4UA Needs Help With Host for Umpire Clinic

The District 4 Umpire Mechanics clinic is set for Sunday, February 25th. We are looking for a league to host the clinic this year. Requirements for hosting are:

- At least one 60 foot field, lined and ready to use
- A second field or open area to host plate umpire drills
- Lunch for clinic attendees
- Bathrooms and adequate parking

Please let Candido Anicete know if you can host! Contact info on the front of the newsletter.

## Districtwide Umpire Meeting – Fall Ball for Blues

District 4 umpire staff is holding monthly online meetings via Zoom that we are calling Fall Ball for Blues. These 90-minute sessions are designed to engage umpires during this offseason, cover topics of interest to all umpires, and engage in discussion around rules and mechanics supported with video examples. Our final Fall Ball for Blues is on Wednesday, November 29th, 7:00-8:30pm Pre-Registration for this Zoom meeting is required at the following link on the District 4 website under Umpire Training: [CA D4 Umpire](#) . Please encourage your umpires and others interested to register and attend

## The Little League Umpire Registry is the go to Online community for all Little League Umpires.

This free registry provides the member with access to training videos, rule instruction books and other exclusive offers. It is also the place where umpires can register to provide the required Background Check Results to multiple leagues, reducing the work required of both the volunteer umpire and the leagues. Encourage your umpires to register at:

[Little League Umpire Registry](#)





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From Jim Rose – Training Coordinator and Asst. UIC Softball

## Rules Trainings – Baseball & Softball

As we begin this year of Little League, know that training in rules is already scheduled for all divisions of baseball and softball. These Rules Trainings are designed especially for umpires, managers, and coaches. Please let your League UIC and all managers and coaches know of these opportunities. And, as in the past, they will be recorded and made available on the California District 4 Little League YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@CAD4>.

## Rules Clinics

This coming season we will be running a four-part Basic-Rules Clinic designed specifically for rules basic to Little League baseball and softball. Those will be presented from 7-8:30pm on Zoom on four successive Thursdays: February 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024

District 4 will also put on an in-person Softball Rules Clinic for umpires, Managers, and coaches, on Monday, February 26, 2024, 6:30pm, at the UC Extension office, 2380 Bisso Lane, Concord.

Teenage Baseball Rules Clinic will be by Zoom at 7pm on Wednesday, February 21, 2024.

If any league would like for me to speak to their managers and coaches, either for a few minutes or for a longer presentation on Basic Safety Rules, Expected Behaviors, and How to Work with Umpires, I would be happy to do that on either Zoom or in-person.



From ADA, Geoff Shiu

A couple of important dates to include in your 2024 League Calendar. Oakland A's Little League Days at the Coliseum:

Sunday April 14th  
Washington Nationals

Sunday May 5th  
Miami Marlins

More information to follow.

Wishing all A Very Happy Thanksgiving 🦃 and

A Very Merry Christmas! 🎄

If your holiday plans include travel, safe travels and don't forget the designated driver.



# Little League

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## **What a Volunteer Umpire Program Can Do For Your League!**

### **Why should you have a volunteer umpire program in your league?**

- Provides another opportunity for adults to participate in the activities of the league on their own schedule with as much involvement as they desire.
- Provides the right on field support for our players during games with umpires who are in it for the right reason – the kids!
- Helps develop leaders for your league if they are just starting out, and keeps long term volunteers involved.
- Maintains the appropriate safety of our players through the Little League Volunteer approval procedure.
- Helps to keep costs for player registration low. Savings in costs to the league of typically \$30,000 vs. hiring outside umpires.

### **Why don't we have enough volunteer umpires?**

- We don't ask individuals to volunteer; we assume they will without explaining to them the need.
- Volunteer umpires are verbally and physically abused doing their job, so why would anyone volunteer for that?
- Our League Boards decide it's too much work to develop a volunteer program

### **Where do I find volunteer umpires?**

- Parents and other family members of your players are the first choice – they usually attend games so are at the fields regularly
- Target other local community groups such as Senior Citizen clubs, Police and Fire agencies, Service Clubs, etc.

### **What does a quality volunteer umpire program include?**

- Full support from the League Board of Directors to the concept of volunteer umpires, including adequate funding through the budget
- A League Chief Umpire on the voting Board who coordinates the overall Umpire Program.
- Recruiting, retention and recognition programs for all volunteers
- Basic training on umpire skills necessary for the volunteer to be successful.
- Uniforms and equipment needed by the umpires
- A Zero Tolerance policy for any abuse – verbal or physical – of a volunteer umpire.

### **How can C4UA help your league develop and improve your umpire program?**

- We will provide you with a Mentor to work with your League Chief Umpire on how to get started and what to do throughout the season.
- We offer the opportunity to network with other Leagues on how they run a successful program.
- We can provide the resources your league needs to develop training programs.

**We are available to visit with your Board of Directors to talk about how to get started with a Volunteer Umpire program or improve what you already have in place!**

**Don Waddell, District 4 Umpire in Chief 925-788-6346. email: [llcad4uic@gmail.com](mailto:llcad4uic@gmail.com)**





## **Why Should My League Have a Junior Umpire Program?**

### **Why a Junior Umpire Program?**

- Provides another Leadership Development Program for our youth within the Little League structure.
- Helps to keep players who “age out” involved, both playing and as officials.
- Provides the right level of skill and experience of umpires who typically have baseball or softball playing experience; usually better umpires than other volunteers.
- Demonstrates to your League members that there is more to Little League than just playing ball.
- Helps to keep costs for player registration low vs. hiring outside umpires.
- Face the reality, our current volunteers are not getting younger and we need to replace them!

### **Where do I find Junior Umpires?**

- Former and current players in your league.
- High School students who need Community Service hours, or are school athletes.
- Scouting and other youth service groups with members who are tasked with service.

### **What does a quality Junior Umpire program include?**

- Full support from the League Board of Directors to the concept of Junior Umpires, including adequate funding through the budget
- One or more Junior Umpire Coordinators who manage the Junior program, and provide a point of contact for the youth when issues arise.
- A group of trained “Game Coordinators” who by rule are the supervisors of the games where no adult umpire is involved and oversee the interaction of Junior umpires and others in the game.
- Recruiting, retention and recognition programs for all Junior Umpires. Typical programs include a small cash stipend, gift cards, equipment allowance etc. for Junior Umpires.
- Basic training on umpire skills necessary for the Junior Umpire to be successful.
- Uniforms and equipment needed by the Junior umpires
- A Zero Tolerance policy for any abuse – verbal or physical – of a Junior umpire.

### **Remember, a Junior Umpire Program is only one element of your overall Umpire Program!**

- You cannot staff all your games at all levels of play with just Junior umpires.
- Pairing an adult volunteer and a Junior Umpire on a game provides for better mentoring and development of the young umpire, and improves game conditions.

### **How can C4UA help your league develop and improve your Junior Umpire program?**

- We will provide you with a Mentor to work with your League Chief Umpire on how to get started and what to do throughout the season.
- We offer the opportunity to network with other Leagues on how they run a successful program.
- We can provide the resources your league needs to develop training programs.

**We are available to visit with your Board of Directors to talk about how to get started with a Junior Umpire program or improve what you already have in place!**

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