



California 4 Little League



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Little League - Junior League - Senior League - Big League - Challenger Division



California 4 Little League

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The Third Team

-Basic Umpire Clinic-

The Annual 2012 California 4 Basic Umpire Clinic is scheduled for the first Saturday in March (3-3-12). Thank you to Alameda Little League and their great volunteers for hosting this annual clinic for the 5th consecutive year.

Each local league will be assessed \$100, which entitles a league to 6 billets. Additional billets are based on availability at \$20 each.

-Tournament Mechanics Clinic-

The Annual Tournament Mechanics Clinic has proven to be a very valuable training aid in preparing volunteer umpires for upcoming post season tournaments. The TMC is scheduled for the Sunday (5-20-12) before the Memorial Day Weekend. We expect no cost for this event.

-Outreach Field Clinics-

C4UA Outreach Field Clinic Coordinator is Mark Oda. Mark may be reached at MOdasan@comcast.net

Outreach Field Clinics are designed for specific needs of a local league. Reservations on a first come, first served, basis. 2012 field clinics are limited and tentatively dates are.....

Saturday, 2-25 Sunday, 2-26
Saturday, 3-10 Sunday, 3-11
Saturday, 3-17 Sunday, 3-18

Key Points.....

- One (1) clinic per day. RSVP early.
- 25 students minimum.
- 4 hours minimum (provide H2O).
- Over 4 hours...provide lunch.
- Host Chief Umpire leads the clinic.
- Plan B (indoor facilities).
- Combine host leagues to help meet minimum attendance requirement.
- Host league(s) must attend the BUC.

-Outreach Rule Clinics-

C4UA Outreach Rules Clinic Coordinator is Dennis Eagan. Dennis may be reached at dandjeagan@gmail.com

Two Outreach Rules Clinics are planned for 2012. Martinez Little League will host the 1st ORC on Wednesday, 2-1-12, 7pm, location TBA. North/South Oakland Little League will host the 2nd ORC on Wednesday, 2-8-12, 7pm, location TBA.



Welcome to
Little League Online
Baseball & Softball

2012 Charter Application

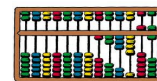
Many leagues in District 4 will schedule Little League events right after the New Year. To ensure a league has insurance coverage for all local league activities, complete and submit your Charter Application before 2012 to ensure your league has 2012 insurance coverage.

All information on a league's Charter Application must be completed including:

- team information
- insurance
- president's contact information
- league president's signature
- league VP's or secretary's signature
- associated fees

To complete a league's charter application the Western Region Office must have on file.....

- copy of league's constitution,
- copy of league's boundary map with written description of boundaries,
- copy of current league's board of directors with their complete contact information.



League Audits & Budgets

A local league's constitution requires an annual review of a league's financial records by an Audit Committee. League presidents; please submit a copy of your audit report and 2012 Budget to Ted Boet.



League Safety Plan

2012 League Safety Plans must be received and approved by Headquarters before March 13, 2012. To meet this **"NEW"** due date requirement local leagues must submit their LSPs to Alan Hatcher, District 4 Safety Officer, at the January District 4 Meeting, 1-17-12, for review and preliminary approval. Upon review, any corrections to a safety plan must be updated and resubmitted at the February District 4 Meeting, 2-21-12.



Good Communications

To ensure good communications between local league officers and District Staff, please provide contact information to respective ADAs.....

Safety Officers to Alan Hatcher
League UICs to Don Waddell
Softball Officers to Carla Moore
Little League Baseball Officers to Don Mayjoffo and Ralph Garrow
Junior League, Senior League, and Big League Officers to David Preuss



Financial Report

Starting Balance	\$10,125.96
September District Dinner	\$233.77
New PA System	\$183.87
Umpire Awards Dinner	\$363.50
New Balance	\$9,344.82



West Region Meeting

A West Region Meeting has been scheduled for January 26-29, 2012 in San Bernardino. If you have any questions or concerns for Little League Headquarters or the Region Center, please forward them to Ted Boet.



Waivers of Rules and Regulations

When a league applies for its annual charter with Little League, it pledges to abide by all the rules and regulations of Little League. However, under special circumstances, it may become necessary to apply for a temporary waiver of a rule or regulation.

It is very important to remember that a league must not take any action contrary to Little League rules and regulations until receiving expressed, written permission through the Charter Committee waiver system. A waiver request, while it may be supported by documents from the parent(s), may be submitted only through the proper chain of command. A league wishing to apply for a waiver of a rule or regulation must do so via the following method:

1. The local league Board of Directors votes whether or not to request the waiver.
2. If the local league Board of Directors votes to request the waiver, the President writes a letter, detailing the request. Supporting documents should be attached, and forwarded to the District Administrator.
3. The District Administrator includes his/her written opinion, and forwards all documents to the Regional Director.
4. The Regional Director will present the situation to the Charter Committee for action.
5. The Charter Committee will inform the Regional Director of its decision, and the Regional Director will inform the District Administrator.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q -- Can a local Little League waive its rights to a player who lives within its boundaries, allowing that player to participate in another Little League program?

A -- A local league does not have the authority to waive such rights. Only the Charter Committee in Williamsport has this authority. If the Charter Committee votes to grant a waiver, the District Administrator will be informed in writing. Waivers, if granted, are for the current season only.

Q -- Can a child who does not have residence within a league's boundaries play in that league for the regular season only, provided he/she is not eligible for Tournament Play (all-stars)?

A -- The local league may request a waiver, listing all circumstances that warrant such a waiver. Only the Charter Committee in Williamsport can make the final decision. If the Charter Committee votes to grant a waiver, the District Administrator will be informed in writing. Waiver, if granted, are for the current season only.

Q -- If a parent signs a notarized statement granting temporary custody of a child to a friend or other family member, can that friend or family member's residence be used to registering a child to play in Little League?

A -- The only acceptable documentation regarding a change of custody is court-ordered custody (a decree issued by a judge who has jurisdiction in the matter).

Q -- Does the District Administrator have the authority to grant a waiver of a rule or regulation? Example: Could the District Administrator give permission for a local league to register players whose residence is outside the league's boundaries?

A -- Any waiver of a rule or regulation can only be made by the Charter Committee in Williamsport. No other person or group has this authority. If the Charter Committee votes to grant a waiver, the District Administrator will be informed in writing. Waivers, if granted, are for the current season only.





Vendors Night



League fundraising chairperson, team moms, auxiliary members, etc. are all encouraged to visit representatives to learn more about their service and products. Vendors are more than happy to answer all your questions and will gladly attend your local board meeting to provide detailed information about their service or products. Thank you to the following vendors for attending.

A to Z
 Active Network
 All Out Baseball
 Alpine Awards
 Cal Spirit Wear
 PJB Fundraising
 J&G Fundraising
 League Direct
 Lifetouch Photo
 Oakland A's
 Positive Coaching Alliance
 Riddell
 SF Giants
 Shooting Stars
 Smart & Final
 Star Sports
 Stockton Ports
 TSS Photography
 Wilson Trophy
 Zaavy

Fundraising
 Web
 Uniform & Equipment
 Awards & Trophies
 Uniform
 Fundraising
 Fundraising
 Uniform & Equipment
 Photo
 Major League Baseball
 Coaching
 Equipment
 Major League Baseball
 Photo
 Snack Bar
 Photo
 Minor League Baseball
 Photo
 Pins & Trophies
 Banners

Gloria Campodonica
 Joe McMackin
 PJ McCoughlin
 Missy Gillen
 Craig T
 Phil Bradley
 Grant Butler
 Jim Higgins
 Kelly Schwab
 Jessica Scott
 Brian Watson
 David Goni
 Matt Peterson
 Suzanne Birkoski
 Kimberly Wade
 Roger
 Tim Pasisz
 Greg Casey
 Kelly Scott
 Vicki Vinson

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By Communications Division
SOUTH WILLIAMSPORT, Pa.
November 2, 2011

In an effort to provide timely information on bat rules, Little League International today announced the bat specifications and standards for the 2012 season.

Here are the highlights, followed by the actual text of the 2012 baseball bat rules:

- **For the Little League Major Baseball Division and below:** The moratorium on composite-barreled baseball bats remains in effect. However, some composite-barreled baseball bats that have been proven in laboratory testing to meet the BPF (Bat Performance Factor) standard throughout the life of the bat, through the Accelerated Break-In (ABI) process, have received waivers. That list is here: [Licensed/Approved Composite 2 1/4 Bats](#).

Note that in the Little League Majors Baseball Division and below, there is no limit on the “drop” weight of any bat.

- **For Junior League Baseball:** The rule was updated to reflect the changes that were anticipated and published two years ago regarding bats with 2 5/8 inch barrels. As a result, composite-barreled baseball bats in this division, regardless of barrel size, must meet BBCOR (Batted Ball Co-Efficient of Restitution) standards, and must be so labeled. Note that all composite-barreled baseball bats that meet the BBCOR standard have a “drop” of no more than “minus-3.” However, in the Junior League Baseball division, bats that **do not have composite materials in the barrel (i.e., all metal, all alloy, all wood)**, and meet all other applicable standards, can have ANY drop weight. Bats with a barrel of less than 2 5/8 inches also can be used in the Junior League Baseball Division, but must still comply with all other specifications noted.
- **For Senior League Baseball and Big League Baseball:** The rule was updated to reflect the changes that were anticipated and published two years ago regarding bats with 2 5/8 inch barrels. As a result, all bats with non-wood barrels must meet BBCOR (Batted Ball Co-Efficient of Restitution) standards, and must be so labeled. Because all BBCOR bats have a “drop” of no more than “minus-3,” this means all non-wood bats in these divisions must have a drop of no more than minus-3.
- **Tamper-Evident Bats:** Because the technology to create bats that show evidence of tampering is not yet available, this aspect of the rules that was anticipated and published two years ago, and again last year, will not apply in 2012.
- **Penalty for Use of an Illegal Bat:** Previously, the penalty for the use of an illegal bat was simply to remove the bat from the game. In 2012, the penalty has been increased as noted in the rules below.
- **Definition of an Illegal Bat:** To narrow the definition of an illegal bat, a new entry was added to Rule 2.00, specifically describing an illegal bat for the purposes of imposing the penalty. As a result, the definition includes altered bats, but excludes a bat that: is no longer smooth because of normal use; is cracked or dented because of normal use; has a handle that has a smaller diameter than the measurement noted in the specifications; or, has material on the grip (or no material) that does not meet the specifications.
- **Softball:** All rules regarding bats in all softball divisions remain the same as in 2011. The moratorium on composite-barreled bats does not apply to softball.
- **Licensed Bats:** As it has for decades, Little League is publishing a list of licensed bats, all of which have a barrel diameter of 2 1/4 inches. This is not a list of all bats that can be used. As long as the bat meets all the specifications and standards for the specific division of play in question, it need not carry the Little League trademark. (Note that Little League does not license any bats with a diameter of 2 5/8 inches.) The list of licensed 2 1/4 bats can be downloaded as a PDF here: [All Licensed 2 1/4 Bats](#).

The rules regarding baseball bats for 2012 are:

Rule 1.10 - Baseball - The bat must be a baseball bat which meets Little League specifications and standards as noted in this rule. It shall be a smooth, rounded stick and made of wood or of material and color tested and proved acceptable to Little League standards.

Little League (Majors) and below: it shall not be more than thirty-three (33) inches in length nor more than two and one-quarter ($2\frac{1}{4}$) inches in diameter. Non-wood bats shall be labeled with a BPF (bat performance factor) of 1.15 or less; **EXCEPTION: For the 2011-2012 Little League (Majors) and below, for regular season play and Tournament, composite bats are prohibited unless approved by Little League International.**

A list of approved and licensed composite bats can be found on the Little League website at www.littleleague.org.

Junior League: it shall not be more than 34 inches in length; nor more than $2\frac{5}{8}$ inches in diameter, and if wood, not less than fifteen-sixteenths ($\frac{15}{16}$) inches in diameter ($\frac{7}{8}$ inch for bats less than 30") at its smallest part. All composite bats shall meet the Batted Ball Coefficient of Restitution (BBCOR) performance standard, and such bats shall be so labeled with a silkscreen or other permanent certification mark. The certification mark shall be rectangular, a minimum of a half-inch on each side and located on the barrel of the bat in any contrasting color.

Senior/Big League: it shall not be more than 36 inches in length, nor more than $2\frac{5}{8}$ inches in diameter, and if wood, not less than fifteen-sixteenths ($\frac{15}{16}$) inches in diameter ($\frac{7}{8}$ inch for bats less than 30") at its smallest part. The bat shall not weigh, numerically, more than three ounces less than the length of the bat (e.g., a 33-inch-long bat cannot weigh less than 30 ounces). All bats not made of a single piece of wood shall meet the Batted Ball Coefficient of Restitution (BBCOR) performance standard, and such bats shall be so labeled with a silkscreen or other permanent certification mark. The certification mark shall be rectangular, a minimum of a half-inch on each side and located on the barrel of the bat in any contrasting color. Aluminum and composite bats shall be marked as to their material makeup being aluminum or composite. This marking shall be silkscreen or other permanent certification mark, a minimum of one-half-inch on each side and located on the barrel of the bat in any contrasting color.

In all divisions, wood bats may be taped or fitted with a sleeve for a distance not exceeding sixteen (16) inches (18 inches for Junior/Senior/Big League baseball) from the small end. A non-wood bat must have a grip of cork, tape or composition material, and must extend a minimum of 10 inches from the small end. Slippery tape or similar material is prohibited.

NOTE 1: Junior/Senior/Big League: The $2\frac{3}{4}$ inch in diameter bat is not allowed in any division.

NOTE 2: The traditional batting donut is not permissible

NOTE 3: The bat may carry the mark "Little League Tee Ball."

NOTE 4: Non-wood bats may develop dents from time to time. Bats that cannot pass through the approved Little League bat ring for the appropriate division must be removed from play. The $2\frac{1}{4}$ inch bat ring must be used for bats in the Tee Ball, Minor League and Little League Baseball divisions. The $2\frac{5}{8}$ inch bat ring must be used for bats in the Junior, Senior, and Big League divisions of baseball.

NOTE 5: An illegal bat must be removed. Any bat that has been altered shall be removed from play. Penalty – See Rule – 6.06 (d).

Rule 2.00 Definition of Illegal Bat

Illegal Bat – An Illegal bat is a bat that has been altered or a bat that is not approved for play because it does not meet specifications with regard to length, weight, barrel diameter, labeling or performance standard for the division in which it is used.

Rule 6.06 – Baseball - The batter is out for illegal action when –

(d) The batter enters the batter's box with an illegal bat (see bat specifications Rule 1.10) or is discovered having used an illegal bat.

Note: If the infraction is discovered before the next pitch following the turn at bat of the player who used an illegal bat -

1. The manager of the defense may advise the plate umpire of a decision to decline the penalty and accept the play. Such election shall be made immediately at the end of the play.
2. For the first violation, the offensive team will lose one eligible adult base coach for the duration of the game.
3. For the second violation, the manager of the team will be ejected from the game. Any subsequent violation will result in the newly designated manager being ejected.