



California 4 Little League



Tuesday April 17, 2012 Volume 21, Issue 7

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



California 4 Little League

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-California 4 Finances-

Balance Forward	\$10,725.57
District Meeting Room	\$25.00
Challenger Donation	\$300.00
District Dues	\$5,165.00
Challenger Donation	\$500.00
District Travel Fund	\$400.00
District Dues	\$2910.00
Don Waddell	\$275.33
Larry Anderson	\$85.51
Post Season Awards	\$980.19
District Deposit Stamp	\$8.65
March Meeting	\$196.60
Balance Ending	\$18,429.29



The Third Team

-Monthly Umpire Meetings-

The April C4UA General Monthly Membership Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 4-18-12, 8pm, Legends Restaurant, Diablo Creek Golf Course, Concord. Arrive earlier if you wish to patronize the restaurant before the meeting. Don will discuss "Use Volunteer Umpires In Your League", "Baseball & Softball Rules Differences", "Share Your Knotty Problems".

-Tournament Mechanics Clinic-

Continental Little League has once again agreed to host the 2012 Annual Tournament Mechanics Clinic at their main complex (Ygnacio Elementary School) in Concord. The TMC has proven to be a very valuable training aid in preparing volunteer umpires for post season tournaments. The TMC is scheduled for the Sunday (5-20-12) before the Memorial Day Weekend. We anticipate no cost for this event. Continental will provide lunch and water throughout the clinic. Anyone with a special diet should bring their lunch.



-Little League Umpire Registry-

Whether you are new to Little League umpiring or a long time veteran the Umpire Registry is here to help you become a better volunteer umpire. The cost to join the Umpire Registry is \$25 and includes with your membership, a copy of the Baseball and Softball Rules, Current Electronic Edition (which you download from the Internet). The electronic rulebooks allow users to search the rules electronically, making it easier and faster for umpires to find the information they need. The Electronic Rules include 11 videos of rules that will help you understand that particular rule better by seeing the rule played out. The following is what you will receive with your membership:

- Copy of Little League Baseball and Softball Rule Books in print and electronic
- Copy of The Umpire in Little League
- Copy of The Right Call
- Official Registry Identification Card
- An Umpire Registry Certificate
- An Official Umpire Patch
- An Official Little League Bat Ring
- Online Umpire Registry Fair Ball Newsletter
- Listing in the Registry of Umpires
- Pass-code to the Registry to access training materials



-League Financial Report-

Each league must settle its balance by June 6, 2012 in order to be eligible for tournament participation. A league may check their exact balance by logging onto the Little League Data Center and click on the "League Financial Check" link. Enter both the State and District number. LFRs are updated daily Monday through Friday. A league may also call the Little League Finance Department, 1-570-326-1921, if there are questions or concerns.



District 4 Staff

District Staff ADAs are available to attend local league's board meetings and meet with directors & officers. Often a local league may have a "new" board (large number of new directors) with a lot of energy and new ideas. A District 4 ADA can meet with the board to answer questions or concerns and to make sure "new" ideas are not in violation of Little League Rules and Regulations. League presidents are asked to make arrangements with an ADA that reside close to their location.



San Francisco Giants

The San Francisco Giants have scheduled two Little League dates for 2012, **April 29th** and **May 6th**. Purchased tickets includes a pregame Q&A with Giants coaches and players, league banner parade on the field, special kids giveaway item for Little Leaguers, kids run the bases after the game, and scoreboard welcomes. Contact Brian Eck (415-972-2248 or beck@sfgiants.com) for tickets and more information. Order your tickets today...especially if ordering group seating.



Oakland A's

The Oakland A's have scheduled two Little League dates for 2012, **April 22nd** and **May 12th**. Purchased tickets includes a pregame festival in B Lot, pregame parade for uniformed players & coaches, and special invite to a pregame chalk talk for groups of 100+. Contact Jessica Scott, (510-563-2336 or email jscott@oaklandathletics.com) for tickets and more information. Leagues are encouraged to purchase tickets early for better seating. Only 10% deposit due in advance to reserve tickets.



UC Berkeley Baseball

UC Berkeley has declared all baseball home games as Little League Days. Free admission for uniformed players age 12 and under. For special group opportunities and additional information contact Katie Lee (510-642-4780 or katielee@berkeley.edu).



Little League Softball Days

UC Berkeley and Stanford University have announced Little League Softball Days for 2012. Contact respective athletic departments for more information. UC Berkeley -- April 24-25, May 1-2, and May 14-15
Stanford University -- May 1



Headquarters

-Little League Awards Program-

Each year Little League International recognizes individuals for their commitment to, and participation in, the Little League program.

Please consider nominating individuals from your District or local league for a respective award as there are certain to be individuals in your District or league who should be recognized. By recognizing members of your District or local league, you help demonstrate the benefits and values of volunteerism, family and sportsmanship.

Nominations may be received from District Administrators, local league Presidents, local league administrators, or coaches.

Nominations for the Mom of the Year Award must be submitted by Little Leaguers.

The deadline for submitting nomination forms is **June 1**. Please contact Scott Rosenberg, Director of Public Relations, at 570-326-1921 or email at srosenberg@LittleLeague.org

-League Eligibility for Tournament-

In order for a Little League program to be eligible to enter a team or teams into the International Tournament (including 9-10 Year Old Division and 10-11 Year Old Division) the following must be accomplished as indicated:

1. The league must be chartered in the division(s) for which it wishes to enter a tournament team(s), no later than **June 6, 2012**. Examples: Chartered in Little League Majors to enter a Major Division team (11-12 year olds); chartered in Senior League to enter a Senior Division team, etc.

2. The league must have scheduled and played, at a minimum, a 12-game (per team) regular season exclusive of playoffs and tournament games for each division entering tournament. See Reg. VII. The schedule shall be arranged so that at least one-half of the games are scheduled prior to **June 15**.

3. All waiver requests (for the league, team, player, manager, and/or coach) of any kind must be submitted and approved not later than **June 6, 2012**.

4. All regular season team rosters must be submitted to Little League International in accordance with the requirements outlined in Regulation IV (g), not later than **June 6, 2012**.

5. Team number revisions and fees incurred by the league must be paid in full by June 6, 2012.

This excludes current year tournament fees. A league can verify their current financial status by going to the Little League Website, clicking on "District Admins" and the Status Link will be at the top of the page. This will be available starting on **May 11, 2012**.

6. All combined team and interleague play requests that may involve tournament play must be submitted and approved not later than **June 6, 2012**.

Failure to meet any of the listed requirements could result in a team or teams being declared ineligible by the Little League International Tournament Committee.

No Proof Curve Balls are More Dangerous than Other Pitches



By Communications Division
SOUTH WILLIAMSPORT, Pa.
August 3, 2011

A five-year study, recently concluded by the Department of Exercise and Sport Science at the University of North Carolina, found that the primary cause of arm injuries in youth baseball players was overuse. It also failed to show an increased risk of arm injury due to breaking pitches, such as curve balls.

"Some within the baseball community have advocated for a ban on curveballs," Stephen D. Keener, President and Chief Executive Officer for Little League Baseball and Softball, said. "However, the study conclusions do not clearly support such a ban.

"Furthermore, a ban on breaking balls would not be simple to put into practice," Mr. Keener said. "With such a wide range of aptitude and ability, it's practically impossible to judge if any youth pitcher intended to throw a curveball or if that's just how the ball came out of the pitcher's hand. To task our dedicated volunteers with judging the type of pitch thrown is not only unfair, it would be impractical."

Little League Baseball and Softball, the largest youth sports organization in the world, in collaboration with USA Baseball, the governing body of amateur baseball in the United States, and the Department of Exercise and Sport Science at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, conducted the study of pitching arm injuries in youth baseball.

Funding for the five-year study, which began in 2006, was provided through a grant from the Yawkey Foundations.

"We are proud to support this study and recognize the need to further our understanding of the causes of arm injuries in youth baseball and the importance of protecting the health and wellbeing of its players," James Healey, President of the Yawkey Foundations, said. "Little League's ability to provide healthy opportunities for youth is important to the future of the sport and the Yawkey Foundations are pleased to be involved."

An extensive overview of the study can be found at the Little League International web site at:

http://www.littleleague.org/Assets/forms_pubs/media/UNCStudy.pdf.

The aim of the study, the first substantive research done in this area, was to describe the incidence and prevalence of pitching arm injuries and examine the risk factors.

The study used three different test groups – Little League pitchers (ages 8-13); high school-aged pitchers; and college-aged pitchers. The Little League test group consisted of 410 players who were followed for four years between 2006 and 2010. The test group from the high school level was made up of 293 players who were recruited in 2007 and followed for additional years. The college test group consisted of 629 players that were followed for two years beginning in 2008.

The pitchers were surveyed each year to assess their pitching methods, techniques, pain presence and injury occurrence. The factors acquired from the surveys were then analyzed to assess which of those factors influenced pitching injury risk.

The study produced several findings including the following: 1. The relationship between age, type of pitch and injury risk is complex, but there was no clear evidence that throwing breaking pitches at an early age was an injury risk factor; and; 2. The data showed the primary cause of arm injuries is overuse, not the type of pitch.

The study's principal investigators were: Frederick O. Mueller, Ph.D., Dept. of Exercise and Sport Science, University of North Carolina; Stephen W. Marshall, Ph.D., Department of Epidemiology, University of North Carolina; and the late Dr. Barry Goldberg, a former member of the Little League International Board of Directors, and Director of Sports Medicine for Yale University's Health Services, who championed this study.

In 2008, Little League Baseball became the first national youth baseball organization to adopt the pitch count, instead of the number of innings pitched, as the basis for its pitching rules.

"Even if Little League were to find a practical way to ban curveballs in our program, they would remain a part of the game for children playing outside our program, as they have been for decades," Mr. Keener, a Little League graduate, said. "For coaches and parents, armed with the information in this report, the decision on when and how to teach the curveball is a matter of preference and education."

Little League has relied on the expert advice and counsel of Dr. James Andrews, Founder and Medical Director of the American Sports Medicine Institute (ASMI); and Dr. Glenn Fleisig, Research Director at ASMI for the development of its groundbreaking pitch count rules. Dr. Andrews, who currently serves on the Little League International Board of Directors, and Dr. Fleisig are two of the world's most knowledgeable and respected authorities on pitching injuries.