

# Notes from UIC Meeting

## November 20, 2024

- Goal of the UIC's meeting.

District 30 wants to create unity within the district so that we are all working together towards the same goal. Providing a superior experience for our youth to play baseball and learn lifelong skills in leadership, courage, and loyalty, while building our local communities. This common goal extends to our umpires who call the games.

We hope to assist each league in developing and strengthening their umpire programs through sharing ideas between the leagues and their UIC's. through these meetings we hope to have the UIC's from the leagues work together to create a more unified UIC program that is consistent throughout the district through the sharing of ideas. UIC programs should not just include a Jr. umpire program but encourage our adults to <https://forms.gle/SpcRPG5D19BtCF3M6> incredibly popular, Little League needs adult umpires to provide legitimacy and confidence in the program.

- League UIC programs:
  - Each league should be encouraging youth and adult umpires to join their programs. At the beginning of the 2025 calendar year start working on promoting your umpire programs by getting information out to your league attendees "Adult and Youth Umpires Wanted". Make it a goal to get 2 or more adult umpires per division if possible.
  - District 30 will and continues to provide training for these umpires. Each year District 30 holds rules and mechanics clinics that should be required attendance for your umpires if they wish to call games. The rules clinics provide detailed instruction on most basic and some obscure rules that will come up during games. There are rules clinic 2 nights for your umpires to choose from:
    - Tuesday January 28 and Thursday January 30, 2025. Umpires only need attend one of the nights.
    - We encourage your umpires to preregister for the rules clinic. This provides a smooth registration process and keeps the line at the door to a minimum. Attendees can still register at the door if they choose. All clinics are at no charge to the attendees.
    - Rules Clinics are located at:
      - Santiago Charter Middle School
      - 515 N. Rancho Santiago Blvd
      - Orange, CA 92869
      - Check in starts at 5:45pm and clinic is from 6:30pm to 8:30pm
      - Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/SpcRPG5D19BtCF3M6>
  - In conjunction with the rules clinic, District 30 also provides a mechanics clinic. This clinic provides key information on the proper way of call a baseball game. How to position yourself at the plate and how to properly call ball, strike, safe,

# Notes from UIC Meeting

## November 20, 2024

out, fair, foul are key communication tools while umpiring. There are also important positioning while working the bases in order to be in the right spot to make more accurate calls. All these things are tough at this mechanics clinic. This clinic should also be mandatory for all umpires in order to call games.

Preregistration is also encouraged for this clinic as well, but attendees can register at the clinic site. The District 30 Mechanics Clinic is a one day only clinic held on Saturday February 1, 2025. This clinic is also at no charge to attendees.

- Mechanics Clinic is located at:
  - South Sunrise Little League
  - 333 S Prospect St.
  - Orange, CA 82869
  - Check in starts at 8am and clinic is from 9am to 1pm
  - Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/P4ToGKuDr54yRTAs5>
- These UIC meetings are for the UIC's and presidents to work towards creating better programs with their leagues. The hope is that the UIC's and presidents make these meeting their own by sharing ideas with the other leagues. What one league is doing to procure umpires might be something another league can use to increase their numbers. We are hoping that through this group you all share what your leagues are doing with your umpire programs. If you have ideas, please share them with the group. There are no bad ideas or comments.
  - What is your league doing to get adult and youth umpires?
  - What are you doing to retain your umpires – Training, Incentives?
- Using game coordinators to monitor games that are exclusively umpired by youth umpires (U18) is not only a great idea, but it is also in the Little League Rule Book (Rule 9.03d). Please consider the use of game coordinators for these games. We understand that most leagues had a Board Member on Duty (BMOD), but these BMOD's cannot watch just one singular game. The game coordinator is someone who is charged with monitoring that game only. They listen into the plate meeting and have authority to stop the game if coaches, managers, players, or fans get out of hand. They do not have authority to change an umpire's call. They are there to make sure that the game runs smoothly and without incident (see attached files "Game Coordinator and Safety Rules").
- If you or your league needs something from the district umpires, please ask. We are here to assist you in any way we can.
  - Here are few things that we are currently providing:
    - District Training as covered above.
    - If need further information on umpiring, there are videos for additional training. Please don't consider these videos to be the best way to learn

## **Notes from UIC Meeting November 20, 2024**

umpiring. The best way to learn umpiring is to umpire. That is what our mechanics and rules clinics are designed for.

- Little League University has some good videos to assist in this training.
- Link: <https://www.littleleague.org/university/>
- District-wide Majors Schedule to assist you with obtaining umpires for your majors games only. Please review attached file on district schedules. We will be sending out an email the first week of January inviting all leagues to participate in the program.
  - Getting your schedules into the system timely is critical.
- Please remember that the UIC job does not end when your season ends. There are several tournaments that conclude the season that will require UIC's to assign umpires to games. These responsibilities can go well into June. Please keep this in mind and inform your umpires of this as well.
  - I will let you know when your UIC responsibilities are completed for the season.
- Next UIC Meeting date is January 15<sup>th</sup>.