## Elk Grove Babe Ruth 13-15 All Stars take 3<sup>rd</sup> place in State Tournament

By Doug Penney, Elk Grove Babe Ruth Secretary

After winning the District 7 tournament, the Elk Grove All Star team traveled to Belmont and won the first 2 games with a 10-run defeat of the Bel-Mateo Host team and 12-0 win over Washington Manor. Then the other winners bracket team, Bel-Mateo District Champion team handed this team their first loss of the season. The Elk Grove team still had a chance to go to the championship game by beating Palo Alto in the loser's bracket final. At one point in that game Palo Alto was up on Elk Grove 12-3 in the 5<sup>th</sup> inning. The Elk Grove team mounted a comeback in the bottom of the 5<sup>th</sup> with key hits by Aiden Griffen, Joey Avila and Josh Strom. Going to the 6<sup>th</sup> inning it was 12-7 Palo Alto. In the bottom of the 6th<sup>th</sup> Elk Grove scored again with some nifty base running by Calvin West and an RBI single by Zahid Munaf. In the 7<sup>th</sup> inning both Ryan Cooke and Jayce Nieves contributed 2 out base hits and the tying run was in the on-deck circle. But it wasn't to be and Palo Alto advanced to the championship round and defeated Bel-Mateo twice to win the State Championship. Elk Grove Babe Ruth is understandably proud of this team.

Below several members to the team are shown in the dugout at Belmont. Seated Left to right Danyelle "Dany" Vachon, Joey Avila, Josh Strom, Brendan McAllister and Mason Koyama. Standing is Aiden Griffen.



Danyelle Vachon created quite a stir at the tournament. In addition to being what Coach Rich Hudson said was his best defensive option at first base, Dany was popular with the team and the fans. Shown below, one father wanted his daughter to meet Dany.



Elk Grove Babe Ruth continues to believe it offers a unique opportunity to provide a quality baseball experience to the community. EGBR tries very hard to live up to the slogan "Teaching Love of the Game since 1962"

Elk Grove Babe Ruth is currently offering Fall Ball signups for ages 12-16 (must be 12 years old by 4/30/20 and not yet 17 years old) The season is 12 games starting September 7, mostly Saturday Doubleheaders with some weekday night games "under the lights". Season ends in mid-October. Cost is \$100 per player. 2 divisions (lower division is 12 and 13 year-olds and the separate upper divisions is 14-16 year-olds). Sign-up online at our Website: www.eghardball.com