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11U Orinda Force Stuns San Ramon



Back row, from right: Coach Eric Kaufmann, Michael Swinton, Jason Smith, Joe Hollerbach, Harrison Braitberg, Charlie Hom, Manager Dennis Wong, Connor Ball; front row: Cole Kaufmann, Bradley Wu, Spencer Schneider, Blake Bates, Garrett Louie, Nicholas Bohm (not pictured: Coach John Dean).

Photo courtesy Cathy Bohm

The 11U Orinda Force, part of the Orinda Baseball Association (OBA), won the 2012 680 11U National Championship. The playoffs were held at the Twin Creek Complex in Sunnyvale, June 1 -3.

After losing to the San Ramon Slammers on Saturday in the last inning by a score of 4 to 3, the Orinda Force won three straight games on Sunday to get the title. After defeating the Martinez Hurricanes 11-6 in Sunday's first match-up, Orinda got a rematch with San Ramon, needing to defeat them twice to win the title.

Orinda had lost all four of its regular season games against the Slammers, but Orinda stunned their opponent, winning the game by the mercy-rule after only four innings, 12 to 0.

With the bulk of Orinda's pitching relatively fresh due to that short game, they went on to outlast San Ramon by winning a slugfest, 19 to 13.

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