



B U D D I E S

KIDS AND YOUNG ADULTS
10-25
YEARS OLD

READ ME FIRST!

Being a buddy to our Challenger players is very easy (*you don't even have to like sports!*). If you haven't done it before, you'll feel like you have in just a few minutes. To help, here are some very simple thoughts:

- ❶ **The main objective of a buddy is to be a friend to our players.** The most important thing you can do is **TALK TO YOUR PLAYER** and keep talking (even if your player doesn't talk back!). Laugh, have fun, see what's up.
- ❷ **It might take a few minutes to gauge how much assistance a player might need.** Don't be afraid to ask if you're not sure.
- ❸ **Don't catch a ball that is hit by a player (don't use a glove), and don't throw the ball.** If it gets by and they don't get it, take your player to the ball. Let them throw it. Any direction will do.
- ❹ **SACRIFICE YOUR BUDDY!** If a ball is coming pretty hard at your player, knock it down. Our first priority is our players' safety.

OUR GOAL IS TO MAKE FRIENDS

Kids that have physical and/or mental disabilities can play baseball on a team in the St. Louis Challenger Baseball League. The league is looking for kids and young adults who want to hang out with our players as they play baseball.

The St. Louis Challenger Baseball League is open to any player from age 5 on up who has a developmental disability.

Challenger players will play on the same fields, use the same equipment and wear the same uniforms (including jerseys, pants, socks and hats) as traditional teams. Each player will bat every inning and each player will play the field. We don't count runs and nobody is ever out.

The most fundamental goal of Challenger Baseball is to **make friends**. As our players make friends with their teammates and their buddies, we also play

some baseball.

Buddies are the main reason our players have fun! Our buddies are young volunteers, between the ages of 10 and 25, who don't have a

disability. **The main goal for our buddies is to make friends** as they assist our players on the field. For instance, buddies can push players who use a wheelchair around the bases after a hit, or help a player get a ball that gets past him or her. If you know someone who might want to be a buddy for Challenger Baseball, we could really use them at any game (or games!). And you don't have to make every game.

The most important part of our program is the social interaction between the Challenger players and the buddies who don't have disabilities. Our buddies

gain valuable insights regarding people with disabilities and realize that they can have a great friend who happens to have a disability. Not only is participating in Challenger baseball rewarding for our players, but it is equally rewarding for our buddies. Many terrific friendships have begun through Challenger Baseball. Our players think the world of our buddies.

The 2018 Challenger Baseball season in St. Louis starts Saturday, April 28th at Tilles Park (at the corner of McKnight and Litzinger). Check the schedule for game times.

Register anytime at challengerbaseball.org.
For more information email buck@challengerbaseball.org



Follow St. Louis Challenger Baseball on Facebook and @STLChallenger on Twitter

REGISTER ONLINE AT CHALLENGERBASEBALL.ORG

IF YOU CAN'T REGISTER ONLINE, MAIL THIS REGISTRATION FORM TO: ST. LOUIS CHALLENGER BASEBALL, 402 N. GEYER, ST. LOUIS, MO 63122

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ Phone Number _____

School _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____