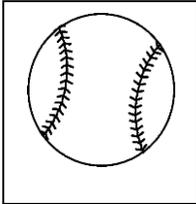


CHALLENGER BASEBALL BUDDIES

A baseball league for kids with disabilities

Being a buddy is very easy. To help, here are some simple thoughts:

*The main objective is to be a friend *Take a few minutes to gauge how much assistance a player needs *Sacrifice yourself for your buddy -- Our first priority is the players' safety



A chance
for kids
to come
together

as a team and be cheered. We don't count outs and we don't count runs. Everybody plays. Everybody scores. **EVERYBODY WINS!!**

It is all about teamwork, friends and fun.

The Challenger Baseball League is open to youth age 5 through high school graduation that have a physical or mental "challenge" which prevents them from safely playing mainstream baseball. Every person regardless of their disability can play Challenger Baseball.

The fundamental goal of Challenger Baseball is to make friends and have some fun while learning the game of baseball. Players have the opportunity to make friends with teammates,

who have disabilities, and buddies, who do not have disabilities. "Buddies" are kids and young adults who hang out with the players and assist them if they need a little help (or a lot).

The rules of Challenger Baseball are modified some. Each player will bat every inning and each player will play in the field. A soft baseball is used. We do not count outs or scores - everybody wins.

Our buddies are volunteers age 12 through young adult who do not have a disability. The main goal of a buddy is to make friends as they assist our players. A buddy may push a wheelchair around the field or help a player field a ball or make a base hit.

Among the many benefits of our buddy program is the social interaction between the Challenger players and the buddies. Our buddies gain valuable insights regarding people with disabilities and realize that they are not very different from themselves. Not only is participating in the

Challenger Baseball program rewarding for the players, it is equally as rewarding for the buddies. Many terrific friendships have begun through Challenger Baseball.

Challenger Baseball practice and games will be played on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 P.M. beginning the last week of May through the month of June. All games will be on the southwest field of West Lincolnway Park in Kearney.

To register: Complete a Challenger Baseball Buddy Registration Form and a Medical Release Form. Please send completed forms to:

Coach Becky Crocker
1021 E. 48th Street
Kearney NE 68847

For further information contact:
Coach Becky
Email: 2browndogz@charter.net
Phone: 308-440-4291 or 234-3225

Arc of Buffalo County
Email:
arcofbuffalocounty@frontiernet.net
Phone: 308-237-4343

We can always use a good "Buddy". Please feel free to share this information.