



Do You Have What It Takes To Be A Baseball Buddy?

What is a Baseball Buddy?

Baseball Buddies are middle school, high school, college students, or adults who help the challenger athletes play baseball. This might include acting as guides for an athlete that is blind, pushing an athlete that is wheelchair-bound around the bases, or helping the athletes bat or field the ball.

Interested in becoming a Baseball Buddy? Here's some important information.

- **COMMITMENT to be a Baseball Buddy.**
 - All Buddies must participate in a **minimum of 7-8** practices or games within the season. This commitment is critical to the success of Challenger baseball. Your athlete counts on you every week!
 - Baseball Buddies will be assigned to a Challenger team for the season. Coaches will give baseball buddies an assigned Challenger athlete or work with multiple athletes in the field.
 - Mason Challenger is made up of a Minor League (players under 11) and a Major League (players 12 and older). Please let us know which league you would like to participate in or if you can help in both. Games run back to back!

- **Buddy Training:** Training will be **required** prior to the start of the season. Training will be provided by the Challenger division.
 - **DATE:** Saturday, May 19, 2018 // **TIME:** TBD (in the morning) // **LOCATION:** Mason Sports Park - first day of practice for the players

- **How to Register:**
 - Registration is open online **from March 5 thru April 13**
 - Go to <http://masonchallenger.leaguemtoolbox.com/site> to register. This is the Challenger home page.
 - Scroll down half way and click on the **OFFICIAL Registration** button on the left hand side.
 - You may have to set up a login in for yourself.
 - Once this is completed, proceed to register.
 - If you know which Saturdays you are not available you can note it in the availability section. However, you do not need to prefill this out.
 - Complete all the screens until the end of the registration.
 - **IMPORTANT:** Make sure we have a cell phone number that we can text you. We will be using a texting app for communication.
 - **"In the comments":** Please provide any information you would like us to see.
 - **Please note:** For any volunteers 18 or older, MYO requires a Social Security number to run a background check.

The 2018 practices/games will be held on the following dates.

| | DAY | DATE | TIME FRAME | LOCATION |
|----|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------|--|
| 1 | Saturday* | May 19 | 9:30am-12:15pm | Mason Sports Park (MSP) (Practice and Training with ABC Pediatrics) |
| 2 | Saturday** | May 26 | 10:00am-12:15pm | Cottell Park- Deerfield township (Practice) |
| 3 | Saturday** | June 2 | 5:30-8:30pm | MSP (Opening Game) |
| 4 | Saturday** | June 9 | 5:30-8:30pm | MSP (Game) |
| 5 | Saturday** | June 16 | 5:30-8:30pm | MSP (Game) |
| 6 | Saturday** | June 23 | 10:00am-12:15pm | Cottell Fields (Deerfield) (All-Star Game) |
| 7 | Saturday** | June 30 | TBD - am | Butler County (Game) |
| 8 | Saturday** | July 7 | 5:30-8:30pm | MSP (Practice or Make Up Games) |
| 9 | Saturday** | July 14 | 5:30-8:30pm | Heritage Oak Park (Game) |
| 10 | Saturday*** | July 21 | 6:00-7:30pm | MSP (Game and awards) |
| 11 | Saturday- Sunday**** | June 28- 29 | TBD - all day | Ohio Jamboree |

*May 19 is the mandatory training day. You will either be scheduled to come at 9:30-11am or 10:30am-12:15pm. Please let us know if you cannot attend.

**There are 2 game times each day – 10am or 11am (5/26 and 6/23) and 5:30pm or 7:15pm (6/2, 6/9, 6/16, 7/7, 7/14). It will depend on what team you are assigned.

***July 21 – All games start at 6:00pm.

****This is an optional weekend. Please consider attending if your athlete is participating. It is a weekend tournament.

- Teams will be assigned in April.
- We ask that Baseball Buddies arrive 20 minutes before the scheduled event time to check in with their coach. Games last approximately 1 hour.
- Buddies will receive a **Challenger Buddy T-shirt** for game day and other Challenger activities.
- Service credit is available for consistent participation by students.

We look forward to your participation as a Challenger Buddy!

If you have further questions, please contact Sandy Pierce at challengerbuddy@masonryouth.org
Please feel free to circulate this message to your friends and others who may be interested in volunteering.

Other opportunities to get involved: “Adopt a Challenger Team for a Game” Your group, team, organization or family can cheer on a Challenger team! You are required to provide a snack (food item and drink) for the team after the game. Many players also enjoy receiving small goodie bags as well! Contact Sandy for more details about **Adopting a Challenger Team for a Game** or check out the MYO website at <http://masonchallenger.leaguetoobox.com/site>