



The Little League® Pledge



Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: How often are the games?

A: Games for the Challenger division consists of one game per week on Saturday. Typically no weekday games are scheduled. Practices during the week are at the discretion of the team manager.

Q: My son has a friend who has disabilities and would like to play. Can they be on the same team?

A: Every attempt is made to keep friends together at the Challenger level. It is rare that requests of this nature cannot be honored.

Q: What equipment is needed?

A: Players need only bring a mitt. All other equipment including bats, safety balls, batting helmets, uniforms, caps, and catcher's equipment are provided.

San Diego Area Leagues Offering Challenger Little League Baseball

District 32

Clairemont Hilltoppers Little League
Coronado Little League
University City Little League
Scripps Ranch Little League
Mira Mesa Little League

District 33

La Mesa National Little League
Chollas Lakes Little League

District 41

El Cajon Western Little League

District 42

South Bay Little League

For more information about the Challenger program in your area please contact Glenn Castan, District 32 Challenger Administrator at (858) 457-1245

LITTLE LEAGUE®



CHALLENGER DIVISION

The most fundamental goal of the Challenger Division is to give everyone a chance to play, regardless of limitations.



The Special Rules of the Challenger Division

- All Children ages 5 through 18, or who remain in school, with physical or mental disabilities are encouraged to participate.
- Level of play based upon player's size, age and skill level are recommended where numbers allow.
- Teams can include as many as 15 to 20 players.
- Players can participate in one of three levels: Tee Ball, Coach-Pitch, Player-Pitch.
- Each player in Tee Ball and Coach-Pitch uses the "Buddy" system. "Buddies", typically volunteer players within the local league, can also assist the Player-Pitch participants.
- Every player on the roster is in the batting order and shall play defensively for at least one-half of every game.
- No team is scheduled to play more than one game in one day.
- The side is retired when the offense has batted through the roster, or when a pre-determined number of runs has been scored, or when three outs are recorded.
- Little League recommends that no score be kept during games.
- Challenger Division players wear the same uniforms, shoulder patches, and safety equipment as other Little Leaguers.
- Insurance for the Challenger Division is set at the same low cost as other Little League Divisions and is available through Little League International in Williamsport, Pa.

The Challenger Division of Little League Baseball is a program for mentally and physically disabled youth to enjoy the full benefits of Little League participation in an athletic environment structured to their abilities. However, whenever possible and with reasonable accommodations, disabled children should participate in unrestricted league play provided their participation is possible and fair within the standard rules and regulations of Little League.



More than the skills of baseball learned through the experience, the value of the Little League Challenger Division is found in the proven therapeutic and socialization benefits of participating in sports, the strengthening of participants' self-esteem, the opportunities to mainstream into other divisions of play, and the disciplines of teamwork, sportsmanship and fair play which are hallmarks of the Little League program.

The philosophy of the Little League Challenger Division is to provide the framework so that every Little League program may offer a structured, athletic activity for all youth in the community.

Playing equipment, uniforms, official shoulder patches, umpires and any special event activities provided for existing divisions are to be available for the Little League Challenger participants as well.

Chartered by the United States Congress as an educational program it is incumbent upon every league administration to provide the same organizational structure as is offered the other Little League divisions, and to assimilate the Little League Challenger participants into the structure of the Little League program.

A special group of children, who shun the description "special," can now enjoy all the benefits Little League Baseball has been offering to youngsters worldwide since 1939. Playing with the same equipment on the same fields, Challenger Division participants learn not only the fundamentals of baseball, but also how it feels to be just like other children pulling together as a team, being cheered, and earning awards for their achievements.

