

Miracle League Buddy Program

Game Rules

1. Games should last 1-1 1/2 hours
2. Two innings minimum per team per game.
3. Everyone bats every inning.
4. Everyone plays defense.
5. Everyone is safe at every base. The last batter hits a “home run”, so everyone runs to home.
6. The score is not recorded and both teams “win.”
7. Both teams will line up on the baseline for the singing of the National Anthem.
8. Teams will have pre-game huddles and cheers, and post-game huddles and wrap-up.

Buddy Guidelines

1. Do show up for each game—your player and his/her team are counting on you.
2. Do check in with your Buddy Leader and player’s parents/caregivers EVERY GAME.
3. Do let the player do as much of the activities as his/her abilities will allow. Only assist when a player is unable to take an action that is not within his/her capabilities.
 - Make sure your player puts on a hard helmet when going to bat. (Check with parents to make sure it won’t upset him/her, however.)
 - Select a bat that is appropriate to your player’s abilities and size. (The player may already know what he/she wants to use.)
 - Find out if your player needs to use a batting T. If not, after 4-5 pitches, the coach will ask him/her to hit from a batting T to keep the game moving.
 - Assist the player to the bases by gentle directing. (Some will need to be pushed by wheelchair or their hands held to guide them.) Do not overtake a previous base runner.
 - If a player can reach down and grab a ball, allow him/her to do so.
 - If a player can’t reach the ball, but can throw, hand him/her the ball.
 - If a ball goes by a player and he/she can move to it, do not go get. Take or encourage the player to go the ball and get it back in play.
 - Talk with your player—help him/her understand the flow of the game, what to do if a ball comes toward him/her, which base to run to next. BE POSITIVE in comments and instructions.

Enjoy the game and encourage your player to do so as well. Talk with your Buddy Leader and player’s parents/caregivers if you have any questions or concerns with your player.