



MIRACLE LEAGUE BUDDIES

As a Buddy your main job is to keep your players safe and have fun.

Tips and common courtesies when working with Special Needs Players

- Be at the player's level when talking to them
- Remember to let the player make as many of the plays as possible. Offer assistance, but wait until your offer is accepted before you help. Listen to any instructions the person may give.
- If a player is unable to talk that doesn't mean they can't hear. Please don't raise your voice.
- Share the same social courtesies with people with disabilities that you would share with someone else. If you shake hands with people you meet, offer your hand to everyone you meet, regardless of disability. If the person is unable to shake your hand, he or she will tell you or you can take their hand to shake.
- Keep directions simple without long explanations.
- Give the players time to process what you have told them before repeating it or giving them more directions. Silently count to five to yourself after giving directions so the kids have time to react.

Miracle League Ball Field Rules

- No cell phones, beepers, IPODs or MP3 players and cleats or flip-flops on the field
- No food or drinks or gum on the field or in the dug-out. Water is provided in the dugouts.
- No pets. Only service animals are allowed.
- No smoking anywhere on the premises.
- Only PARENTS may take children to the bathroom or give them food.
- Do not stand behind parked wheelchairs. When a player is stationary, buddies should be *beside* them.
- Make sure the player is not over heated, water misters are in the dug-outs
- Watch for on-coming runners and balls that are hit hard (it can happen!)
- If a situation or behavior with your player becomes uncomfortable for you do deal with, talk with the coach and then coach will work to resolve the situation.
- Volunteers on the field must be 12 years or older. No exceptions

Directions to the Field: The Miracle League Field is at Adams Elementary School, 805 Cary Towne Blvd., Cary. From I-40, take exit 291 to Cary Towne Blvd. Turn right on Cary Towne Blvd., and proceed to the stoplight. Turn right at the stop light onto Principal Lane which leads into the school parking lot. The field is on the right as you enter the parking area. Please do not park in the 3 rows closest to the field. Leave them available for our players with disabilities. Thank you!