



BUDDIES

The Miracle League of San Diego ("MLSD") provides children and adults with special needs the opportunity to play baseball in an organized league. Each player is paired with a volunteer buddy that provides encouragement and support as needed, as well as becoming a friend. The season runs from September 10th through November 12th. MLSD has two locations - Engel Family Field in San Dieguito Park (Solana Beach) and Bell Middle School (Chula Vista). The time commitment is 1 and 1/2 hours each Saturday, and game times begin on the hour at 10:00 am and run through 4:00 pm at Engel Family Field and through 2:00 pm at Bell Middle School.

Full-time buddies are expected to attend most of their team's scheduled games (they may miss no more than two games), while floater buddies may miss three games or more. If they cannot attend a game, buddies must notify one of their coaches by Friday evening.

Buddies are there for three reasons:

1. Protect the players – safety first
2. Assist the players, but assist only as needed, allowing the player the opportunity to play as much as possible
3. Provide encouragement

Guidelines:

- When a hard hitter is up to bat, Buddies are to step in front of the player for protection.
- Always allow the player as much freedom as possible to play his/her own game.
- Assist the player according to his/her needs. Help with batting, throwing and running, if needed. Some Buddies will have to push wheelchair-bound players during games.
- It is not your job as a Buddy to play for your player. If your player is unable to field a ball on his own and you are in the infield, you should help make a play only if the ball is hit directly to you or at your player. Otherwise, let the ball roll to the outfield for another player to field it.
- Be of good spirit with enthusiasm, love, and positive attitude.
- Become their friend; get to know the players and their families. Bonding with your player will make the time spent at the field more beneficial for both of you.
- Arrive at the field 30 minutes prior to the game time, dressed in your buddy shirt.
- Demonstrate high morals and integrity on and off the field.
- Listen to your coaches.

TO REGISTER, PLEASE VISIT PLAYYON.COM/MLSD.

BELL MIDDLE SCHOOL: 620 Briarwood Road, San Diego, CA 92139

ENGEL FAMILY FIELD, SAN DIEGUITO PARK: 1628 Lomas Santa Fe Drive, Del Mar, CA 92014