



Challenger Baseball 2018

Bridgewater Community Little League

Dear Friends,

We are very grateful for your interest in being a Challenger buddy for the 2018 season. It is impossible to overemphasize the importance of each buddy's role in our program. The athletes look to their buddies for guidance, assistance, protection, instruction, encouragement, and friendship. In many cases, the quality and consistency of this relationship makes the defining difference in a Challenger athlete's feelings of success and enjoyment of the season.

Because of the importance of these relationships, we are looking for persons whose schedule and commitment make it possible for them to make Challenger a priority. A 2018 season schedule is posted on the website at www.bridgewaterchallenger.com. Please review it carefully and consider your other obligations. If you find you are going to miss more than three Challenger games, we need to be informed so we can avoid assigning you to an individual athlete.

A training session for NEW buddies will be held Monday, April 2, 7:00-8:00 pm at the Bridgewater Church of the Brethren. Please plan to attend this meeting if you will be new to our program. The focus of the training will be on ways of assisting and protecting athletes during specific game situations. Buddy assignments will also be announced at this event.

As you can imagine, securing buddies for four teams of athletes is a challenging job. Please help us by responding to the following requests as quickly as possible. These are requirements for ALL volunteers, even if you have been a buddy in the past:

CONFIRM YOUR COMMITMENT AS A 2018 CHALLENGER BUDDY.

After you have reviewed the schedule for the season and compared it to yours, email Sue Hutchinson at hutchisl@jmu.edu to confirm your availability to serve as a Challenger buddy. Include the email address and phone number we can use to contact you during the season and your tee shirt size. Your contact information will be shared with your athlete's family unless you request otherwise. If you are unable to be a full-time buddy, but are willing to serve as a substitute, please let Sue know of this interest and the dates you are available.

COMPLETE A LITTLE LEAGUE VOLUNTEER APPLICATION.

Because of legal requirements for child protection, all Little League volunteers age 16 or older must complete a volunteer application. Note that there are separate forms for NEW and RETURNING buddies. Applications for new buddies must include your social security number and a legible copy of your driver's license. All applications must be signed. Confidentiality of the information shared in these forms is maintained by the League officials responsible for background checks. Virginia does not require an additional background check, so the statement requesting this attachment may be ignored. Volunteer applications should be mailed or delivered to Philip and Sue Hutchinson, 209 Dinkel Avenue, Bridgewater, VA 22812 **by March 1.**

We look forward to a great season together! Feel free to contact me if you have questions.

Visit our website at
www.bridgewaterchallenger.com

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