

Game Play Guidelines for Challenger Buddies

Role of a Challenger Buddy:

- **PROTECT** the Challenger player
- **ASSIST** when necessary while playing in the field, at bat and running bases
- Remember ***each player is unique***
 - They will need different levels of assistance and may face unique challenges while participating

Basic Guidelines for a Challenger Buddy. These guidelines are intended to give basic instruction, but do not cover every situation.

FIELDING		
Position and Readiness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Make sure fielders are a safe distance from the batter</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No fielder should be located in front of the pitcher's mound • Avoid having the players stand in base paths • <i>Stand near your player in a position that will allow you to protect</i> him or her from a batted or thrown ball if necessary • When your player is ready to throw a ball, be sure the fielder is ready to receive the throw • At the end of an inning, all players and buddies should remain on the field until the last base runner scores 	
	Softly Hit Ball	Hard Hit Ball
Player with unlimited mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow player to field ball alone • Direct player where to throw the ball 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the ball is headed to the outfield let it go • If the ball is on the infield, knock it down, if necessary, and then allow the player to field the ball.
Player with limited mobility (walker, wheelchair, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field the ball, or ask another player to field the ball and hand it to your player to allow them to throw it or hold it momentarily. • Assist the player in throwing the ball, if necessary • When talking with a player using a wheelchair, always position yourself at their eye level and talk face to face 	



BATTING

General

- If necessary, help your player choose a bat and helmet.
 - ***All players must have a helmet on!***
- Help your player get in correct position in the batting box
- After the player makes contact, make sure the player drops the bat before running
- Some players may also need guidance on where to run after they hit the ball
 - You may need to move toward first base and encourage the player to follow you
- **IMPORTANT:**
 - Don't let your player swing a bat- unless they are in the batter's box.
 - Do not pick up a ball in front of a tee unless you have your hand on the athletes bat too.

- Allow player to swing at the pitch and assist if necessary
- If a player is not successful at hitting a thrown pitch, encourage them to use the tee
 - MYO will allow 4-6 missed pitches before pulling out a tee

Tee

- Set the ball in place when the fielders are ready and get the player into batting position
- Assist the player in swinging the bat if needed

BASERUNNING

General

- In most cases, runners advance one base each time a batter hits the ball
- You should run with your player and stay close enough to protect him or her from a batted or thrown ball
- In some cases, you may direct your player where to run next

