

Volunteer with

North Shore Highlands Challenger Baseball!

The Highlands Little League Challenger Baseball Division is seeking volunteers ≥ 13 years of age to help fill the role of "Buddy" for our upcoming 2024 season. This is a fantastic opportunity for anyone seeking a fun, rewarding experience working with youth and adults with disabilities, in an outdoor sports setting!

What is Challenger Baseball?

Challenger Baseball is a national organization that helps local leagues provide individuals with cognitive and physical disabilities (both youths and adults) the chance to be on a team, in a uniform, having fun engaging in a sporting activity with those of similar ability.

Each year, Highlands Challenger Baseball assists between 70-80 North and West Vancouver residents who can't participate in regular baseball leagues due to varying types of disabilities. We provide participants with more than an opportunity to play - we also provide a much-needed break from therapies and appointments that typically fill up much of the weekly schedule for both players and parents.

What does a Buddy do?

Each Highlands Challenger player is partnered with a "Buddy" - a volunteer who acts as a partner, guide, protector and friend during game days. Buddies are responsible for keeping their player safe on the field, assisting their player with batting, running bases, and catching, and being supportive and uplifting to both their player and all the players at the field.

Challenger players look forward to the fun and friendship that comes with seeing their Buddy each week, and Buddies can look forward to not only a great time on the field, but also to gaining a greater appreciation of diversity and enhanced capacity for inclusion.

How can you get involved?

The 2024 Challenger season will run from Sat Apr 13/24 to Sat Jun 29/24 inclusive, with games played each Saturday from 10:00 to 11:15-11:30am (11 games total for the season). An all-day Jamboree event for all BC Challenger teams will also be scheduled in June for those able to attend, with details and location to be announced.

Want to get involved and join the Highlands Challenger Family? Please contact Highlands Buddy Coordinator Sophie Mariano at <u>challengerbuddies@gmail.com</u> for more information.

We can't wait to see you on the field!