



Let's Play Ball

2016 Annual Report



Board of Directors

Russ Oberbroeckling,
Executive Director
Jim Carlstedt, Treasurer
Jeanette Miller, Secretary
Jay Fox
Phyllis Guthman
Chris Holbrook
Sherri Johnson
Michelle Vaughan

Contact Buddy Baseball

Buddy Baseball, Inc.
P.O. Box 290361
Temple Terrace, FL 33687-0361
russ@buddybaseball.org
813-416-5742

Fields

Temple Terrace Parks
& Recreation
Family Recreation Complex
Fields behind Lewis Elementary
6700 Whiteway Drive
Temple Terrace, FL 33617

Connect

Web: www.buddybaseball.org
Facebook: @buddybaseball
Instagram: @buddybaseballtampa
Twitter: @buddy__baseball

Buddy Baseball is a 501(c)(3)
nonprofit organization.



"My son looks forward to the game each week. It encourages him and helps with his self esteem. We are so thankful for the excellent job each person that volunteers and contributes. This has been life changing for my son. He really loves Buddy Baseball."

Player Parent



Boys and Girls with Special Needs Playing Ball with a Buddy

Hello Buddy Baseball Fans,

In 2016 we commemorated our 100th Saturday of playing Buddy Baseball with a big celebration at the fields. Jake Odorizzi and Corey Dickerson from the Tampa Bay Rays came out to celebrate with us by playing in a game and signing autographs. The Rays posted the video and it has garnered more than 13,000 views. Rays team mascot Raymond was at the event along with Dave Wills, Tampa Bay Rays radio broadcaster, who announced a few games. The USF baseball and softball teams joined as buddies for the day. We also had a cookout, treats and activities for the kids, and all the players and buddies received a souvenir Buddy Baseball 100th Day backpack. A special thanks to The Brink Foundation as our title sponsor for the event.

We ended 2016 with an appearance on Fox 13's *Good Day Tampa Bay – Charley's World*. The kids came out early in the morning to play a game between the Reindeer and the Elves. Fox 13 did a great job at showcasing our league all morning long with four live interviews. We gained several new players, buddies and coaches because of our appearance and broadened our reach in the Tampa Bay area.

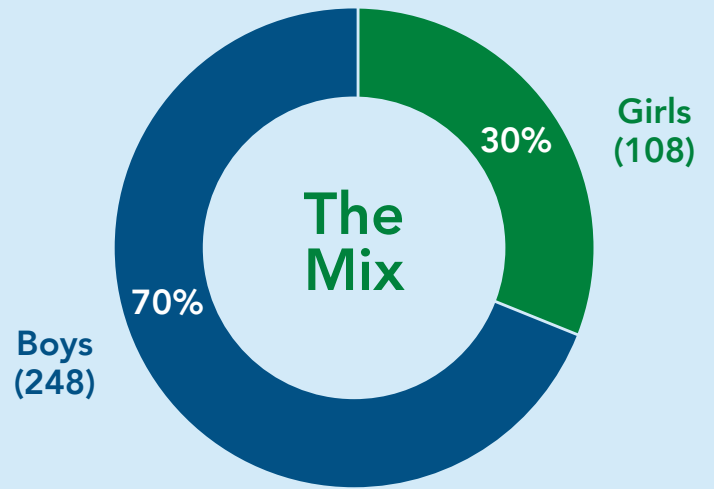
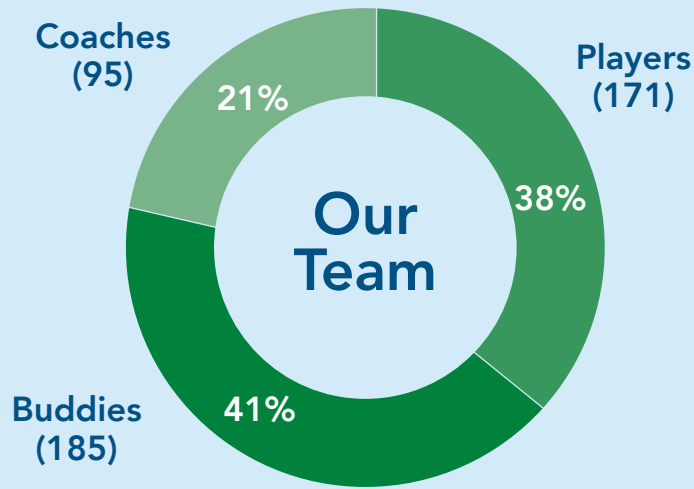
In addition to all of our promotion, word of mouth advertising is our best source for new players and buddies to the league. Along with our dedicated board of directors and the City of Temple Terrace, we are all proud to give children with special needs the opportunity to play a recreational and organized sport, just like any other child.

Sincerely,
Russ Oberbroeckling
Executive Director

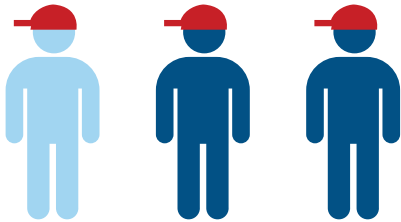


Making a Difference in 2016

Buddy Baseball is a non-competitive recreational league for boys and girls ages 8 to 22 with special needs. Each player is paired with a buddy to assist them on the field and in the dugout. The league runs for seven weeks with a Spring and Fall season.



1/3 Were New Participants



111

Players receiving financial assistance

Public, private and special needs schools represented by players and buddies

15%

356

Players & Buddies

Average Age

14

12

Team for Spring Season

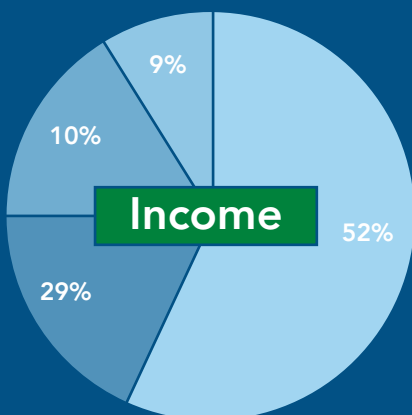
14

Teams for Fall Season

91

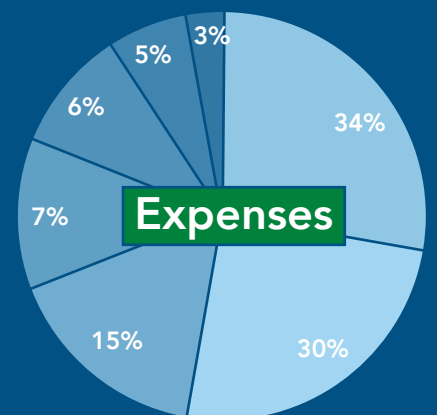
Games

Keeping the League Running Successfully



Income	
Sponsorships	52%
Donations	29%
Registration	10%
Buddy Run Fundraiser	9%

Expenses	
Events	34%
Uniforms/Trophies	30%
Administrative	15%
League Expenses	7%
Promotion	6%
Scholarships	5%
Equipment	3%



Thank You to Our 2016 Sponsors

Buddy Baseball could not operate without the generosity of our sponsors. With 171 players and 185 buddies, that equates to hundreds of home runs, countless smiles and immeasurable friendships our sponsors help bring to the entire Buddy Baseball community.



Grand Slam Sponsors - \$2,500+ (includes 2 seasons)

Congregation Beth Am
Florida Medical Clinic - Foundation of Caring
Tampa Bay Insurance Group, Inc
Tampa Electric Big Bend Station
TECO Energy Foundation
The Brink Foundation
Ward - Mitchell Attorneys at Law

Home Run Sponsors - \$1,000

Tampa Bay Hearing and Balance Center
Tampa Steel Erecting Company



Double Sponsors - \$500

Alvarez Roofing
Dr. Duga, Dr. Feeney Pediatric Dentistry
MCC Marketing Group
Pepin Distributing Company
Preferred Materials
Republic Bank
Tampa Breakfast Sertoma Club
Tampa North Rotary Club

Single Sponsors - \$250

Andrew's Family
Bayside We Insure
Capture LLC
Central Florida Eye Care Associates
Choinque LLC
CJN&W CPAs
Coupons.com
DeBartolo Family Foundation
Dick's Sporting Goods
Drummond Wehle LLP
Gaspar's Patio Bar & Grille
Gibbs & Parnell, P.A.
Home Instead Senior Care
Image Depot Express
Law Office of Robert Geller P.A.
Montefu Consulting
One Team Financial Group
Quantex Home Inspections
Tampa Machinery Auction
Temple Terrace Mason Lodge # 330 F.& A.M.
The Beck Group
The Sod Depot
Tracy Johnston and Associates, Inc.

Recognizing 2016 Achievements

- Tampa Bay Rays donated \$5,000 to Buddy Baseball
- Celebrated our 100th Saturday of playing ball
- Tampa Rays players Jake Odorizzi and Corey Dickerson and USF baseball and softball teams joined in the celebration
- Tampa Bay Rays radio announcer Dave Wills guest announced
- Awarded two \$750 college scholarships and six \$100 scholarships to buddies
- More than 800 Facebook followers and 100 Instagram followers
- Fox 13 *Good Day Tampa Bay* and Charley Belcher broadcasted live from the ball fields twice
- Congregation Beth Am donated \$6,700 from the 6th Annual Buddy Run
- Suncoast Credit Union committed to a two-year sponsorship of the Buddy Run
- Fox 13's Russell Rhodes announced at the Buddy Run for fifth consecutive year
- Television interviews on *Studio 10 Live*, *Community 10* and *WEDU Give Day Tampa Bay*
- League featured on documentary *Baseball from the Beginning – Tampa Bay*
- The City of Temple Terrace recognized Buddy Baseball at City Council Meeting
- Inaugural monthly newsletter is published
- Players with their buddies throw out first pitches at four different high school baseball games

A special thanks to the City of Temple Terrace Parks & Recreation for their continued support.

"It's all about the friendships, sportsmanship of the players, buddies, coaches and families all being positive and encouraging. The chance to relax in a social setting where no one is going to judge a kid who is having a rough day or judge the parents, because we've all been there."

Player Parent

