



Let's Play Ball! 2019 Annual Report











Board of Directors

Russ Oberbroeckling, Executive Director Jim Carlstedt, Treasurer Jeanette Miller, Secretary Barry Clements Jay Fox Phyllis Guthman Sherri Johnson Dennis Mueller

Contact Buddy Baseball

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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.



"It's such a great source of confidence for my son. He feels secure in this environment. It's so nice to create and foster friendships that feel natural. Two buddies enjoying a game of ball together. It's a win-win, and we're forever grateful for this."

Player Parent





Boys and Girls with Special Needs Playing Ball with a Buddy

Hello Buddy Baseball Fans!

2019 brought Buddy Baseball's 10th anniversary. Our league has grown and changed immensely since we first started in the fall of 2009 with six teams. This year we had 16 teams for the spring season and 20 teams for the fall season. We've come a long way!

Our Sarah Otteson Buddy Scholarship program continues and is much appreciated by the families. This past spring, the three \$1,000 winners and our honorable mention applicants, brought our award total to \$15,000 in scholarship funds to college-bound graduating seniors.

Buddy Baseball had a busy summer. In addition to our annual participation in the Temple Terrace 4th of July Parade, we also participated in the Rays Baseball Magic Clinic. The Rays put on this event for Buddy Baseball and the Miracle League of St. Petersburg. The Rays are the only Major League Baseball team that we are aware of to host a clinic for children with special needs. Our players, buddies and coaches had a game on the Rays field at Tropicana Stadium with hitting, fielding and throwing instruction from coaches at Eckerd College. Complete with lunch and a visit from Rays mascot DJ Kitty, a fantastic time was had by all.

Our biggest milestone of 2019 was the groundbreaking of our new all-accessible synthetic turf field. This initiative is a partnership between Buddy Baseball and the City of Temple Terrace with support from Hillsborough County Schools, Hillsborough County and the State of Florida. The construction ran through our fall season, and the new field will be ready for play for the spring 2020 season. We converted the outfield of the main grass field into a third field. Increasing from two to three fields will accommodate the growth of our league and our ten games each Saturday of the season.

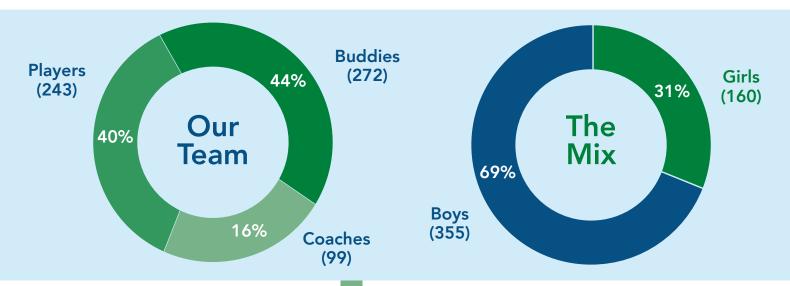
2020 is going to be another big year for us. We are looking forward to playing on our new synthetic turf field, which will allow us to better accommodate people with mobility challenges. With the new field and media coverage, we expect to see even more growth in the league for 2020. With all that is happening in the Buddy Baseball world, be sure to stay in touch with the league through our newsletter, Facebook and Instagram pages. PLAY BALL!!

Sincerely, Russ Oberbroeckling Executive Director

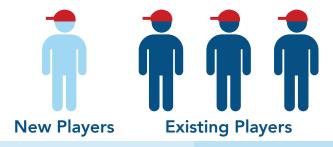
Making a Difference in 2019

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.







144

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

Players receiving financial assistance

23%

515

Players & Buddies

Average Age

14

16 Teams for Spring Season

20 Teams for Fall Season

126 Games

Keeping the League Running Successfully



Thank You to Our 2019 Sponsors

Buddy Baseball could not operate without the generosity of our sponsors. With 243 players and 371 buddies and coaches, that equates to hundreds of home runs, countless smiles and immeasurable friendships our sponsors help bring to the entire Buddy Baseball community.



Sponsors and Supporters

20+ Seasons

Caspers Company - McDonalds Restaurants In Kind
CJN&W CPAs Single
Tampa Bay Rays Grand Slam
Tampa Machinery Auction Single

15+ Seasons

Alvarez Roofing Double Choinque LLC Single **Grand Slam** Congregation Beth Am **Drummond Wehle Yonge** Sinale Gibbs & Parnell, P.A. Single Tampa Breakfast Sertoma Club Double Tampa Electric Big Bend Station **Grand Slam** Tampa Steel Erecting Company **Grand Slam** The Sod Depot Single

10+ Seasons

Andrew's Family Double Dr. Duga, Dr. Feeney Pediatric Dentistry Double Gaspar's Patio Bar & Grille Single **MCC** Single Pilot Bank Single Tampa Metro Civitan Club Single **TECO Energy Foundation Grand Slam** The Brink Foundation **Grand Slam** Tracy Johnston & Associates Single

5+ Seasons

Chick Fil A - Temple Terrace In Kind Clearshine Window Washing Service Sinale **DeBartolo Family Foundation** Single Dick's Sporting Goods Sinale Florida Medical Clinic **Grand Slam** Friends of Firefighters **Grand Slam Image Depot Express** Sinale Law Office of Robert Geller Single Law Office of Tim Taylor Double One Team Financial Group Single Tampa North Rotary Double Temple Terrace Masonic Lodge Single

1 to 4 Seasons

A Plus Medcare **Grand Slam** Allied American Sinale Single Disability Resource Hub Eric Hodz's Birthday Donation Single **GFWC Temple Terrace Junior Women** Single Gibbons Neuman Single Kennedy Investments Double Mortellaro Law **Grand Slam** Oliver & Fox, P.A. Double Schneider Family Double Steve and Mallory Gerstein Double Sun Paints & Coatings Double Tampa Bay Psychiatry Sinale Tampa Pulmonary and Sleep Specialist Double The Battino Family Double The Fat Rabbit Home Run The Fountain Group Triple

Recognizing 2019 Highlights

- Buddy Lexi Kilfoyl named Florida Gatorade Player of Year for the second consecutive year and donated her \$1,000 grant to Buddy Baseball
- Buddies logged 3,000+ community service hours to total 25,000+ service hours since 2009
- Congregation Beth Am donated \$8,100 from the 9th Annual Buddy Run
- The San Francisco Foundation donated \$5,000
- Veterans presented the flag during Veterans Day weekend games
- Participated in Rays Baseball Magic Clinic with highlight video having over 27,000 views
- Largest ever Buddy Baseball End of Season Party with 350 attendees
- Special Needs Planning presentation from local attorney to Buddy Baseball families
- Summertime Bingo for Buddy Baseball families
- Events attended to promote Buddy Baseball: Rays Fan Fest, Temple Terrace Business Expo, 4th of July Parade, Temple Terrace New Teacher Breakfast, Tampa Bay's 2nd Annual Autism Walk, Trek for Treasure, Great American Teach In, Ippolito Elementary and Beth Am Open Houses.
- Speaker at local high schools and players threw first pitch at several High School baseball games.
- Groundbreaking of new handicapped accessible fields for Buddy Baseball.

Sponsorship Levels

Grand Slam \$2,500 Home Run \$1,000 Double \$500 Single \$250

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

