

# Challenger Division of Little League



The Little League Challenger program is for kids with special needs such as autism, Down syndrome, mental retardation, visual impairments, hearing impairments, and other health or medical issues. We accept all players from ages 5 through young adult.

There are about 20 Challenger teams total on the west side of the SF Bay. Games are mostly on Sunday afternoons from mid-March through early June. There will be some Saturday games also. You do not need to play within your home league boundaries.

Currently within our local area (called District 44), we have Challenger teams at Moreland, Sunnyvale Southern (2 teams), Sunnyvale Metro, and Cupertino National with more teams being planned including Santa Clara.

**BASIC GAME RULES:** In a Challenger game, each player gets a chance at bat. Usually two innings are played. Little League recommends that no score be kept during Challenger games. The Challenger players wear the same uniforms, shoulder patches and safety equipment as other Little League players.

One of the benefits of having a Challenger Division is that it encourages the use of "buddies" for the Challenger players. The buddies assist the Challenger players on the field but whenever possible, encourage the players to bat and make plays themselves. However, the buddy is always nearby to help when needed.

If you want to sign up your child or if you wish to volunteer, please send email to [challenger@cad44.org](mailto:challenger@cad44.org) or call 408-506-2913. Registration occurs December through February. For information on your local Little League, go to [www.cad44.org](http://www.cad44.org).