Kiwanis Angel T-Ball League

Helper and coach training

The focus of this program is to provide a positive recreational opportunity for special needs children ages 5 to 18 needing a modified sports activity. It is designed to increase their social skills and self-esteem. The buddies assist by providing individualized instruction through verbal and physical encouragement. Immediate feedback and positive encouragement provided by the helper also assist the instructional process. The athletes should learn the basic skills and rules of the game and participate to the best of their abilities.

1. Behavioral – biting, hitting, and what to do if the player is uncooperative, etc.

GUIDELINES FOR BUDDIES

1. Ask volunteer coordinator/coach about medical issues the player may have such as seizures, asthmas, allergies, physical, etc.
2. Ask for help, if needed,
3. Be a motivator- Provide constant positive feedback for the athletes (Verbal, high-five, pat on the back, hug, etc.)& start conversations about the game with the players.
4. Be respectable to the players and their time. These games are organized for players who look forward to coming every week. These strategies should reduce behavior problems.
5. Ask for help, if needed, if player has difficulty following safety rules.
6. Attend all of the games & should inform the volunteer coordinator if he/she cannot attend.
7. It is recommended that the buddy wear his/her club shirt whenever possible.
8. Follow the instructions and directions of the coach.
9. Be a good role model.
10. Make sure the athletes are focused on the game.
11. Teach the game to the athlete.
12. Make sure the athletes learn and follow the rules of the game.

What do you teach the Angel League athletes?

The athletes will participate in the game by learning how to hit the ball, run around the base and occasionally throwing and fielding the ball. The coach should demonstrate these actions during the training so the buddies are able to familiarize themselves with the game. During the game, it is important to ensure the safety of the players by standing with them at the designated areas. Secondly, it is important to make constant

interaction with the players and don’t be afraid to encourage them! This service event requires you to commit your time and show up to the games. The players are looking forward to seeing you every week, so please be respectful and show up to every game.

***What buddies have said about Angel League***

“This is a rewarding service opportunity because I enjoy spending time with the kids and mentoring them. Seeing their happy faces makes you want to do it over and over again” – Nirali Govind

“This is an eye opening experience because it is something that most people don’t understand. Learning how to work with children who have disabilities and see how they have overcame adversities is truly inspirational.” – Sherwin Koshy

“People should join Angel League because it gives an opportunity for you to impact someone’s life in a positive way. I enjoyed angel league because I had the chance to really get to know these kids and was able to treat them as if they were just like me.” – Madison Moro

“I love and thoroughly enjoyed angel league because I was able to make new friends with my peers and the sweetest children ever. People should definitely join angel league because the smiling children will brighten up your week (guaranteed!) and you will do the same for them.” – Mikki Bandelaria

“Angel League is a special service event in which I was able to constantly help out the community. It’s amazing how much it means to these kids that we are there to support them, and there’s no better feeling to see them be happy.” – Hannah Varghese

Angel league made me look forward to Mondays. Angel league is a place where you can get away from all of your stressful situations, whether it is at school or at home, and interact with a kid who will inspire you with their innocence. When you realize how much adversity they are constantly facing, but yet they are able to smile and enjoy this time will make your smile.