

Lorne Platt and I (Scott Parker) run South Pasadena Little League's Challenger Division, which is Little League's adaptive baseball program for boys and girls with physical and/or intellectual challenges. We've been running this program for over 10 years.

Our participants have a variety of challenges, such as autism (a very wide range) and down syndrome. Some are non-verbal, some are in wheelchairs. We typically have nearly 40 registered players, though around 15-20 tend to show up at our games and practices.

Players ages range from 4 years old to the mid 20s. With this wide age range, safety is paramount, and we have volunteers to keep our players safe and help them if need be. We encourage high school student volunteers to act as player "buddies" at our games and practices. These buddies assist the Challenger athletes in the areas of batting, base running, and defense, but only as needed.

Our season runs from early to mid-March through mid to late May.

We practice most every Sunday from 4:30- 6:00 at Orange Grove Park in South Pasadena. These practices entail playing catch for the first half hour, and then scrimmaging amongst ourselves for the next hour. These practices are very low key and relaxed.

We play games against other Challenger teams on Saturday mornings either at Orange Grove Park or at the fields of other Challenger teams from Sierra Madre Little League, Santa Anita Little League, and Pasadena American Little League.

Players can go to as many practices and games as they want. There is no need to notify us if you can or can't make it.

Registration (free!) includes a jersey with the player's name and number on it, cap, pants, and socks. There is also a picture day where players will receive a standard package that includes individual photos and a team photo. SPLL provides fielding gloves, bats, balls, and helmets. There is no need to purchase your own gear, but you are free to do so. Some players even buy their own plastic cleats!

We kick off our season by having a "movie-in-the-park" on a large movie screen at Orange Grove Park, and we always have a season-ending potluck in May where medals and pictures are handed out.

The schedule of games and practices will be sent out at a later date.

For more information, contact me at scottparkerspll@gmail.com or Lorne at lplatt323@gmail.com.

We look forward to meeting you!

Play Ball!

Scott & Lorne