



BARTLETT BASEBALL & SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION SENIOR CHALLENGER DIVISION



SPECIAL NEEDS BASEBALL FOR
YOUNG ADULTS AND ADULTS

SIGN UP NOW LEAGUES FORMING

THE BARTLETT LITTLE LEAGUE
CHALLENGER SENIOR DIVISION
PROVIDES THE FRAMEWORK TO
ENABLE MALE AND FEMALE
YOUNG ADULTS AND ADULTS
WITH PHYSICAL MENTAL
DISABILITIES TO ENJOY A
STRUCTURED ATHLETIC
ACTIVITY.

AGES 15 AND UP.



Bartlett Baseball and Softball Association Senior Challenger Division

P.O. Box 8034, Bartlett, IL 60103

Email: blchallengers@gmail.com

Twitter: [@blchallengers](https://twitter.com/blchallengers)

Website: www.blchallengers.org

Challenger Hot Line: 630-233-4955



BARTLETT BASEBALL & SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

SENIOR CHALLENGER DIVISION INFORMATION

The Bartlett Baseball and Softball Association (BBSA) Challenger program started in 1994 for boys and girls with physical and mental disabilities, to enjoy the game of baseball along with the millions of other children has expanded our Challenger program in 2015 with the addition of the newly created Senior Division that will enhance our already successfully Challenger Division.

In 2015 the Bartlett Challenger League Program will be structured as follows:

Challenger Division: Any candidate with special needs (physical or developmental) who will attain the age of 4 years before May 1 and who will not attain the age of 19 before May 1 shall be eligible to participate in this division. Player's league age 15-18 may choose to play in either division.

Senior Challenger Division: Any candidate with special needs (physical or developmental) who will attain the age of 15 years before May 1 shall be eligible to participate. There is no age limit in the Senior League Challenger Division. Player's league age 15-18 may choose to play in either division.

Frequently Asked Questions about the Senior League:

- **How is the Senior Division structured under BBSA?** – The Senior Division and Challenger Division are Divisions of Bartlett Little League under the guidance of the VP of Challenger Divisions.
- **Will the Senior Division use buddy support players?** – Yes, both divisions will use buddy support players.
- **My player was participating in the Challenger program under a house waiver for age requirement (playing past 22 years old) do we still need that?** – No- there is no more house waivers required for the older players because the Senior Division has no age limit.
- **Does the Senior Division mean more advanced play?** – No, it would not mean more advanced play. However, we could consider allowing more advanced players not to play with a buddy if they player met some safety requirements / parameters we are developing. As we proceed in 2015 we can review implementing some more “advanced” rules.

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- **Does the Senior Division cost more than the Challenger Division?** – Each year the Bartlett Little League determines yearly fee to help offset costs of the program (usually well below the regular fees) and for 2015 the fees will be the same for both the Challenger Division and Senior Division. If a family is in financial distress,
- **What does my registration fee include?** The Senior Division will get the same things as the Challenger Division a full uniforms approximately 10 regular season games and ability to participate in our “Second Season Games”. This will also include the after game snack of hot dog, drink and chips. The Senior Division will have different style jerseys than the Challenger league. We will request that if your players existing pants fit and will work for the upcoming season (especially the Seniors since they may be done with growth spurts) that those be used. However, no one will be denied new pants if need be.
- **When will the games be played?** –The games will be played on the weekend as we have done the past many years. Depending on the amount of players registered for the Senior Division and Challenger Division along with the future BBSA field availability for 2015 it is undetermined if will get to play together at the same time, different time but same day, etc. That decision will be made well ahead of our opening day in April.
- **Will all the games be in Bartlett?** –As with the Challenger Division the game will be played in Bartlett (outside of special games), however it is at the request of the BBSA that Senior teams be open to travel a few games playing in other locations no matter how many Bartlett Sr teams we have.. This would be to represent Bartlett and show others our successful program. This would be to play other Senior teams from our NWSRA baseball group, other leagues we have networked with or even any r District 13 partners if they field any Senior Teams. A lot depends on the amount of teams we have in the Senior Division which we could request more or less travel games.
- **Does your program conflict with Special Olympic eligibility and participation?** No. Bartlett Little League Challenger Division actually **HIGHLY** encourages participation in Special Olympics programs. Many of our current and former players are Special Olympic athletes. Since our games are played weekends, this can conflict with some of Special Olympics local and state events which can mean missing some games and we understand.
- **When and how do we sign up?** –Registration will start in November 2014, watch for the email blasts coming from the BBSA, you would log into your account at www.bartlettbsa.com if you already have one and register for the correct division. If you don't have an account, you would create one in our easy to use new website!
- **I missed the general registration; can we sign up during the season?** Yes, depending on if our teams are filled up and where we are at on the schedule we could possibly get you playing right away!

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- **There has been talk about independent play within the Bartlett Challenger League, what is the status of that program?** –With the addition of the Senior Division this could help the future agenda of the Bartlett Challenger Program to promote special needs baseball and growing more independent players. This would be geared towards the possibility of independent and / or unified play. This advancement would help these players if Special Olympics decide in the future to add baseball as an official sport. For 2015 because of the resources and manpower required to start the Senior Division this initiative will be taken slowly to dedicate the successful starting of the Senior Division, but not ruled out.
- **My young adult – adult has not played in the Challenger Division before / I am not sure if my young adult - adult will like baseball / my young adult - adult does not know how to play baseball?** No worries! We look at baseball as an avenue to allow growth of your player in ways that you may not have thought possible. Contact us and we will invite you to one of our games,
 - We will give a tour of our fields.
 - Explain how we play the games
 - Introduce to some of the coaches and parents of the Senior Challengers.
 - Answer any of your questions.
 - And one of the best things about both Challenger Divisions is that all the coaches and parents "understand", we are living with the same issues!
- **How can I tour when it is not baseball season?** You can contact us via email at blchallengers@gmail.com and we can schedule a phone call, or visit our website www.blchallengers.org.
- **Can we volunteer to help?** Absolutely! We are always looking for help in coaching, supplying buddy teams, helping around the fields support our "Play It Forward" baseball equipment program and in getting the word out about our Challenger program to the community at large. Who can I contact?

Paul Williams at blchallengers@gmail.com or call the Challenger hotline 630-233-4955.

Main League Information:

Bartlett Baseball and Softball Association (Bartlett Little League)
 PO Box 8034, Bartlett, IL 60103
www.bartlettbsa.com

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