

Hamilton Challenger Baseball



HCBA is a registered Canadian Charity, providing sports and social activities for players with special needs in the Greater Hamilton area.

Mission Statement

Provide exceptional sports and social activities for youth and adults with challenges in an engaging and supportive setting

Goals

- Provide sports and social activities for challenged athletes
- Develop skills, teamwork and sportsmanship to the maximum of each participant's ability
- Build self-esteem and confidence through participation and social interaction
- Create a fun atmosphere and playing environment
- Promote community awareness and participation

Hamilton Challenger Baseball Association (HCBA) is a local chapter of Challenger Canada. With over 220 players and 70 dedicated volunteers. HCBA is the largest Challenger Baseball league in Canada.

We believe in the transformative power of sport; the Association provides the opportunity for those with developmental and physical disabilities to be empowered and assert their independence through high-quality programming.

- Our priority is to provide social / recreational activities to persons with disabilities
- Sports are an excuse to get together, develop relationships and to have fun
- Membership in HCBA is available to any person age 5 years and up with special needs
- There are Jr & Sr age groups, each with Divisions for skill levels where possible

Baseball

- Baseball played at 5 skill levels
- There is over 220 registered players, 75% play at a 'Recreational' skill level
- 4 games are held on Mondays & Tuesdays in June, July & August
- At Recreational skill level, buddies may assist players, however the priority of the buddies is to encourage the player to participate to the maximum of their ability
- Baseball rules are adapted as required to match players' abilities so that participation and teamwork are emphasized

Off Season Sports

Activities at a Recreational (Fun) Skill level

- Gymnasium Bowling
- Floor Curling
- Indoor Baseball
- 3 on 3 Basketball
- Recreational (fun) Boccia

Boccia Skills and Fun

- Hamilton Sports Challengers' Boccia is partnered with HCBA's Off-Season program
- This program features Boccia skills training in a fun atmosphere for members who would enjoy learning the rules and the challenge of competition



Social Activities

- Halloween Party
- Christmas Party
- Summer Tournaments
- Summer 'Fun' days / BBQs
- Banquets
- Valentine's Dance



Jays Care Foundation (Toronto Blue Jays)

Jays Care Foundation supports Challenger Baseball across Canada

- Knowledge sharing
- Coaches training
- Jays' Swag for players
- Jays Care Community Clubhouse visits
- Opportunities for volunteers
- Donate hats and jerseys each year
- Substantial cash donation each year



Impact Story - Max

Max has been part of the Challenger baseball family for 4 summers now. He's the biggest sports fan you'll ever meet. Because he was born with a rare neuromuscular disorder, we were always worried that Max wouldn't have any opportunities to participate in the activities he loves so much.

Through (Hamilton) Challenger Baseball, he has been able to be active and meet new friends - all while playing the game in a way that's meaningful and adapted to his own unique abilities. He loves being part of a team, and his baseball experience has given him the confidence and courage to continue to play sports all year round. We are so grateful to Jays Care and all the wonderful coaches and volunteers that make this league possible!



Impact Story - Rylie

Rylie is a beautiful, feisty 5 year old little girl in her rookie season with HCBA. Rylie is non verbal, autistic and has a genetic disorder called Angelman Syndrome. Life is not always easy, but Rylie always makes the best of it with her happy demeanor shining through.

HCBA and Jays Care have given the opportunity for Rylie to thrive this summer. It is physical, occupational and play therapy all rolled into one. She gets so excited to go every week and see everyone. She LOVES to hit the ball and run the bases. Most important is the friendships we are both making. Making friends isn't always easy when you're a little different or communicate in a different way. She has friends here. I have friends here. Her best baseball buddy, Max, is always excited to see her and play with her. His parents even negotiated a last minute trade so they could be on the same team together!

Thank you, Jays Care and HCBA for all you do for Rylie and others like her. Your support means more than words can say.

