



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 23, 2023

Youth with Special Needs Can Play Baseball with Waukee's Miracle League Spring Season registration open through March 29

Waukee, Iowa – Baseball players with special needs and disabilities are invited to join the spring season for the youth Miracle League with Waukee Parks & Recreation. Players take their swing on the Greater Iowa Credit Union Miracle League field at the heart of the baseball complex in beautiful Triumph Park.

The special field removes the barriers which may prevent these aspiring athletes with a custom-designed, rubberized turf field that accommodates wheelchairs and other assistive devices while helping to prevent injuries.

The league is more than just playing a game. Players can make new friends and build self-esteem. Each player is paired with an able-bodied "buddy" to assist them throughout each game.

"This league is special. Our Parks & Recreation Department loves being a part of bringing smiles to these players' faces," said Assistant Parks & Recreation Director Josh VandeKamp.

All kids ages 5-19 with special needs - whether physical, emotional, social or cognitive - wanting to play baseball/softball on a non-competitive, coed team are eligible to play in this league. The league runs April 15-May 20 with games played on Saturday mornings, 9-10 a.m. at Triumph Park.

Registration is open through Wednesday, March 29 at [Waukee.org/Registration](https://www.waukee.org/Registration) under Register for Activities.

Volunteers Needed

Umpire the game or pair up with a player as a "buddy" to cheer them on and help them through the game. Volunteers can sign up for all 6 weeks or pick game days based on their availability. Volunteers can participate as a group with friends, family or coworkers. Younger students can volunteer alongside a parent. Learn more at [Waukee.org/MiracleLeague](https://www.waukee.org/MiracleLeague).

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The City of Waukee is recognized as the fastest growing (large) city in Iowa and is located in Dallas County—the fourth fastest growing county in the U.S. The current population is 26,495 residents. Waukee offers a welcoming atmosphere, featuring quality parks, schools and trails. The City is also dedicated to economic development and expanding business opportunities, including the creation of the mixed-use development, [Kettlestone](https://www.waukee.org/Kettlestone). For more information, visit [Waukee.org](https://www.waukee.org).

Triumph Park is the City of Waukee's 66-acre regional park which includes 12 softball/baseball fields, practice areas, concessions and more, serving local ball teams, large-scale tournaments and athletes with special needs by way of the Greater Iowa Credit Union Miracle League® Field. An 11-acre pond with accessible pier, greenspaces and trails provide outdoor recreation opportunities. Triumph Park is also home to the country's largest EPIC Inclusive Playground. Visit waukeetriumphpark.org.

