



## 2015 Junior Giants Parents Meeting

### City of Medford Staff:

Rich Rosenthal – Asst. Parks & Recreation Director  
David Alexander – Program Manager and Site Supervisor  
Alex Calkins – Junior Giants Ambassador

### Primary Contact:

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### About Junior Giants

- Local sponsor: Bear Creek Pediatric Dentistry (1150 Crater Lake Ave., Medford)
- Core Enrichment Programs:
  - Four Bases of Character Development: Confidence, Leadership, Integrity, Teamwork
  - Education program - Round the Bases Reading Program
  - Violence prevention program - Imagine Peace Art Contest
  - Health program – nutrition magnet
- Junior Giants is an educational program centered around the activity of baseball
- Junior Giants emphasizes character development in a non-competitive environment
- Positive attitudes and patience are essential for parents and volunteers
- Insist that your child completes the prescribed Junior Giants “program” elements

### Practices/Team Meetings

- The initial team meetings begin the week of June 22 at the Santo Community Center
  - Player/Parent handbook, t-shirts and hats distributed at first team meeting
- Practices begin the week of June 29 at various local park sites.
- Maximum of two team meetings (games or practices) per week
- Practices last approximately one hour
- Please do not drop your kids off and leave; practices are not a childcare service!
- Parent involvement in the program is necessary for success.

### Team Assignments

- MPRD randomly assigns players to teams
- Average cumulative age of each team will be even
- Team sizes are large (up to 15 for t-ball; up to 14 for machine pitch) because of high absence/attrition rates over the course of the summer
- **Team rosters, including site and time of first team meeting, will be posted at [sportsmedford.com](http://sportsmedford.com) by Sat., June 20. (Parents receive notification via email.)**
- Check your emails regularly and your spam folder – in some cases email providers filter our emails because they are sent to so many people.

### Games

- Games will be played at Bear Creek Little League Fields (behind Dairy Queen on Alba Dr. off Barnett Rd.) starting the week of July 13.
- T-ball and Coach Pitch games will be played on Mondays and Wednesdays nights at 5:45 or 7 p.m.
- Machine Pitch games will be played on Tuesday and Thursday nights at 5:45 or 7 p.m.
- Teams play twice per week (10 games total)
- Rained out or weather-shortened games will not be rescheduled

### **Weather Issues**

- Weather-related decisions are generally made at 4 p.m.
- There's no obligation for any child to play in hot or questionable weather – it's up to the parent/guardian.
- Always assume games will be played as scheduled unless contacted by email.
  - Cancellation notices also posted at [sportsmedford.com](http://sportsmedford.com).
- If air quality reaches "Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups" level at [airnow.gov](http://airnow.gov), games will be canceled.

### **Team Photo Day – Wed., July 15 & Thur., July 16**

- The City of Medford contracts with LifeTouch for team photography – no obligation to buy
- Bring photo order form to Photo Day
- Photo order forms will be distributed to parents by coaches at first team meeting
- Teams may play abbreviated games on Photo Day due to time limitations
- Report times may be adjusted to accommodate pictures. Check your schedule!

### **Equipment (for games and practices)**

- All essential game-related equipment is provided by the Junior Giants organization (except gloves)
- Hats, t-shirts, photo forms, schedules, handbooks will be distributed at first practice

### **Uniforms/Gloves/Footwear**

- T-shirts and hats are provided and must be worn to games
- Players provide their own gloves, if possible
- Ask us (or your coach) if your child needs a "loaner" glove
- Shoes must be worn at all times during practices and games
- Shoes must be closed-toed – no sandals or flip-flops permitted
- Participants may wear rubber-molded cleats (NO METAL CLEATS)

### **Volunteers Wanted**

- The league depends on volunteers – coaches and team parents
  - Make a positive difference in children's lives
  - No previous coaching experience needed – we'll train you on the basics
  - About a 4-hour time commitment per week for 10 weeks
  - Coaches automatically coach their child's team
- Team parents assist coaches with administering the "Junior Giants" program
- Criminal background checks required for all coaches, assistant coaches and team parents
- If you'd like to volunteer, see Alex after the meeting for details

### **Coach/Team Parent Training and Orientation Meetings**

- Required coaches meetings: Santo Community Center
  - Wed., June 10 - program orientation, practice field assignments - 5:45 p.m., Santo Center
  - Wed., June 17 - equipment, rosters, rules, etc. - 5:45 p.m., Santo Center

### **Final Day of the Season**

- Each coach, assistant coach, official team parent and program participant receives a FREE hot dog, chips and drink at the Bear Creek Little League concession stand.

Please check [www.sportsmedford.com](http://www.sportsmedford.com) "Youth Sports" – "Baseball" for more information and updates  
-Check your emails regularly-