

## Buckhead Baseball Opening Day 2024 T-Ball 4s and 5s Team Parent Instructions

**The Opening Day ceremony and parade for the 2024 season will be held on Saturday, March 16th at 9:00am.**

### Preparation:

- Please assign one parent to help organize your players on the morning of Opening Day. That volunteer should send an email to Opening Day Chair, Courtney McDonald, prior to Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> so we can keep track of volunteers and responsibilities. Her email is [courtney@graysonjamesinc.com](mailto:courtney@graysonjamesinc.com).
- Each team is welcome to make and bring a poster board sign with the team name on it. If you choose to do so, this should be held by whomever is leading your team in the parade.
- Each team is encouraged to bring balloons in team colors. The team/coach/team mom will carry these during the parade. Keep in mind that they will need to be held by a parent when the team sits down on the field. Also note that this is not mandatory.

### Arrival:

- Parking can be tricky, so please advise parents that carpooling is always helpful and that parking on surrounding streets is a great option. Lookout Place runs parallel to the west side of the park and can be accessed from Pharr Road. There is a clearly marked pathway on Lookout Place which leads down a hill and to the ballpark. The Majors parking lot spaces will be reserved for the Buddy Baseball players and special guests, so using the alternate parking spots will be important.
- All players should meet on the AAA field in full uniform by 8:50 A.M.
- Coaches and each team's team volunteer should arrive by 8:50 A.M as well.
- The Buckhead Baseball Booster Club will have donuts and coffee set up for you to enjoy while you wait for the parade to begin.
- There will be parents of Majors players (who have been at Buckhead Baseball for many years) on-site to help. If you need any assistance, look for a parent with a lanyard that says OPENING DAY VOLUNTEER. They will be happy to help!

### Line Up:

- All T-ball teams should be lined up with their teams along the AAA field outfield fence by 9:05 A.M.
- Team volunteers are responsible for finding their players and lining them up in the appropriate area on the AAA field. There will be signs marking where each team should line up. The morning can be quite chaotic, so it's imperative that at least one parent on each team knows EXACTLY what their players and coaches should do.
- Only team managers, coaches and players will be allowed on the AAA field for the line-up.

### **Parade Procedure:**

- The parade will begin between 9:10 A.M. - 9:15 A.M. The Majors volunteers will guide the TB4 and TB5 teams towards the steps and each team will follow their team leader/balloon bearer off of the AAA field.
- The teams will parade up the steps and onto the Majors field where they will walk through a tunnel formed by the oldest Buckhead Baseball players – the Majors. Then each T-ball team will sit along the infield for the ceremony. Volunteers will be on the field to help guide you.
- TB4 and TB5 team volunteers should help set the pace for their team during the parade so it flows smoothly.
- Only team managers, coaches and players can walk onto the Majors field for the ceremony.
- Gum, seeds, spikes and food are NOT allowed on the Majors field. Please tell your kids and help us enforce this.

### **Ceremony:**

- Players should stand during the National Anthem and then may be seated for the remainder of the program.
- The ceremony includes award announcements, the raising of the team flags for the Spring 2023 Majors winners and more. It will last until 10:00 A.M. or a few minutes before.
- The Buddy Baseball (click [HERE](#) to learn more) game will follow immediately on the Majors field. Please stay to cheer them on if you can.

### **Post-Ceremony Activities:**

- Be sure to visit the Merchandise Store featuring brand-new apparel and accessories for the whole family! It will be open from 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.
- If you joined the Buckhead Booster Club, stop by the Booster Club table to pick up your swag bag. If you haven't joined, please pop by to learn more about it!
- Grab a Chick-fil-A sandwich or chicken nuggets while supplies last as well as a full menu of food/drinks/desserts at the concession stand which will open at 11:00 A.M.
- Support Pound the Pavement for Peter by picking up some sweets at the bake sale located by the Majors field between 10:00 A.M – 3:00 PM