


A Sports League for Special Needs Children & Young Adults



 SPIRITLEAGUE.ORG

 714-417-9553

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/csl60y2fmgrgho/Spirit%20League%20Video.mp4?dl=0>



Youth Sports: *A Rite of Passage*



Children with autism can't join the local team

Physical, emotional or social challenges limit their opportunities to participate



1 in 59 children in the U.S. have autism
(1 in 37 boys)

Typical youth sports leagues are not equipped to
accommodate autism and other special needs



Spirit League is the place where a special needs athlete can participate in a “typical” sport in a realistic, nurturing environment that encourages building both skills and relationships.



Spirit League is the only special needs sports league in Orange County to offer year-round sports





Most sports played
in Mission Viejo.

Spring Basketball
Clinics played in
Laguna Niguel
starting April 24 for
8-week session.

Why Spirit League?

Spirit League is different from other youth sports leagues

**We focus on the unique needs of young athletes with autism
and other developmental disabilities**

We teach basic sports skills, game play and teamwork





Athletes learn that there's more to the game than just the score





Parents can celebrate their child in a whole new way





Each 10-week season includes:

- Structured skill development
- Team games

Spirit League *What We Do*





Teamwork is demonstrated using specialized methods that the athletes can understand and implement

Spirit League *What We Do*



SPIRIT LEAGUE ATHLETES

- 50% of athletes play more than one sport
- Families drive from Orange, Los Angeles and Riverside Counties
- 85% of athletes have Autism Spectrum Disorder



SPIRIT LEAGUE ATHLETES

DIVISION 1
13-22 YEARS OLD

43%

DIVISION 2
9-13 YEARS OLD

34%

DIVISION 3
6-9 YEARS OLD

23%





SPIRIT LEAGUE VOLUNTEERS

- 40 to 60 volunteers each game day
- Coaches are trained and certified through Spirit League and work together with Team Mentors to provide the best experience for our athletes

MILESTONES

2004

SPIRIT LEAGUE
STARTED
WITH FOUR
FAMILIES

2008

SPIRIT LEAGUE
BECAME A
501(C)(3)
NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION

2014

FIRST STAFF
HIRED

2016

ONLINE COACH
TRAINING
CERTIFICATION
PROGRAM
LAUNCHED

2017

NUMBER OF
ATHLETES
DOUBLED
SINCE 2009



In 2019, over 450 athletes played sports with
Spirit League



Spirit League *Future Goals*

- Move athletes off waiting lists and onto the fields
- Build Adult Program
- **Spirit Center Sports Complex** – A safe place for children and young adults with special needs to:
 - practice social skills
 - play sports, and
 - be celebrated for who they are!



We Need Your Help To Do More



- Coach a team (90-minutes per week for 10-week season)
- Be a Team Mentor
- Volunteer at upcoming events
- Connect us with a Community Sponsor
- Consider helping on a Committee



Spirit League Supporters






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Thank You!



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