

## Athletics of the Challenger Division Embody What Little League is All About

Looking for a cast of baseball characters that are lovable, welcoming and fun-loving? Look no further than the Athletics of the Challenger Division — where you'll find a speedster, a powerful southpaw, a future play-by-play announcer and even a player that is truly "awakened."

- Kaleo, number 13, is a key leader on the squad. He chats up his teammates about birthdays, school and baseball. His swing and his throwing arm seem to be gaining strength and power as the season progresses.
- Malia, number 1, has infectious positive energy. Whether she's speeding around the bases, smacking the ball all over the field, or playing catch with her teammates and coaches, Malia is having fun, and so is everyone around her.

- Tristram, number 7, is smiling all game long. He runs fast, throws hard and accurately, and gives solid high 5s.

- Leif, number 2, has a quick, powerful southpaw swing and is fiercely determined on the bases. Leif seems to love launching throws to the coaches and fellow A's teammates during warm-ups and the games.



- Jalen, number 3, has an infectious smile and is calm and cool swinging the bat and rounding the bases. He's always a positive presence in the dugout and on the field.
- Oscar, number 4, can be found making solid contact at the plate, dancing down the base paths, chucking the ball with increasing speed and accuracy, and yelling encouraging play-by-play calls at his teammates.
- Oliver, number 8, brings intensity to his at-bats that are only matched by his jubilation while running the bases. He comes to the ballpark ready to be friendly, focused and have fun.
- Bodhi (literally meaning "to awaken"), number 5, is a consistent, dependable, strong hitter. He brings great effort and positivity whether he's speeding around the bases or having a catch with his teammates and coaches.
- Nathan, number 10, hustles around the bases, his long legs inspiring his fellow Athletics

to move quickly. He brings a joyful smile to the field and dugout.

- Alina, number 6, is also a speedster on the base paths. Her swing and her fielding are as stylish as her hot pink helmet and cleats.
- David, number 11, has a powerful left-handed stroke. He waits for his pitch, connects and puts the opposing defense to work.
- And last but not least, Joshua, number 14, brings experience and joy to the team. After he connects with a pitch, Josh's face lights up as he speeds around the bases. Watching his teammates, coaches and fans cheer for him as he crosses home plate wearing a huge smile embodies what this Challenger league is all about.

— *Ben Malloy*