

TORONTO PLAYGROUNDS



2025 SPRING
NEWSLETTER

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MAY 2025

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LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge that we gather on the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee, and the Wendat peoples. We recognize that this territory is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit, and that it is part of the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant. This covenant is an agreement between the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee nations to peaceably share and care for the lands around the Great Lakes. We are thankful for the opportunity to be on this land and we are committed to working towards reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Chris Bialkowski – Vice President
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HOUSE LEAGUE WRAP UP 2024

- 976 players, ages 4-18, participated in house league for the 2024 season
- 80 house league teams competed across all age divisions
- House League Playoffs - "**September Madness**" was a huge success!
 - Division Winners:
 - 11U Mosquito - Expos
 - 13U Peewee - Giants
 - 15U Bantam - Wolves
 - 18U Varsity - Homesteads

TP Baseball Academy Programs - 2024

- Ran a full three-session slate of both the Baseball Academy and Tee Ball Academy in 2024

TP GIRLS BASEBALL ACADEMY

- In March 2024, we launched the inaugural TP Girls Baseball Academy
- Designed to provide a supportive and empowering space for girls and those identifying as girls to learn and grow in the game
- Gathering and using participant and family feedback to guide future improvements and program expansion
- This marks an important step in building a more inclusive and inspiring future for girls in sport

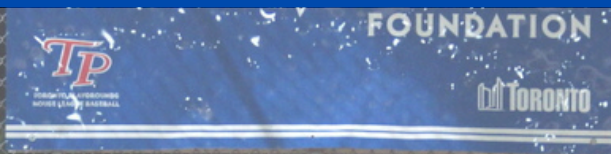
Summer Camp Programs - 2024/2025

- TP continued to offer both the Summer Baseball Camp and Intensive Skills Camp in 2024
- Operated 7 weeks of Summer Baseball Camp
- For the first time, ran 4 full weeks of Intensive Skills Camp
- 11 total camp weeks offered - the most in TP history
- The entire program was a great success
- A similar camp program is planned for Summer 2025



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DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION (DEI)

- Developed a TP Baseball DEI Policy that outlines our commitment to creating an inclusive and welcoming environment
- Policy applies to all players, families, coaches, and volunteers
- Serves as a foundational step in ensuring equity and representation are central to all aspects of the organization — both on and off the field
- The policy will continue to evolve as we grow, learn, and engage with the TP community
- You can find the DEI policy here: [DEI](#)

CHANGE THE GAME - MLSE

- TP is proud to participate in MLSE LaunchPad's "Change the Game" research project
- Initiative focuses on making youth sports more inclusive, equitable, and fun
- Findings confirmed what we've long believed: fun, community, and belonging are more important than wins and losses
- Insights from the report are actively shaping how we train coaches, design programs, and engage families
- Want to be part of the culture shift? [Volunteer to coach](#) or support [the Get a Kid In the Game fund](#) and help us make baseball better for everyone!

GET A KID IN THE GAME

- Committed to the belief that every child deserves a chance to play
- The [Get a Kid in the Game Fund](#) helps remove financial barriers to participation
- Partnered with [Big Brothers Big Sisters](#) of Toronto to expand access and reach more young players



- Ongoing encouragement for community members to donate and support the initiative — every contribution helps open the door for a new player

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REP/SELECT WRAP UP 2024

- TP Fielded 14 competitive teams between the ages of 9U and 18U
- 4 Tournament championships (16U 'AA' - Niagara Falls, 16U 'AA' - Royal York, 13U 'AA' - Ajax, 12U 'AA' Toronto Playgrounds)
- 4 TBA Champions (18U 'A', 15U 'AA', 15U 'A', 12U 'AA')
- 1 TBA Finalist (16U 'AA')
- 1 EBA Champion (11U Select)
- 1 EBA Finalist (15U Select)
- 8 OBA Participants (18U 'A', 18U Select, 16U 'AA', 15U 'AA', 15U 'A', 15U Select, 12U 'AA', 11U Select)



2024 REP/SELECT HIGHLIGHTS

- 3 athletes represented TP at the Baseball For All Baseball Tournament in Elizabethtown Kentucky - *the biggest female baseball tournament in North America.*
- Parker Turnbull - Toronto Cardinals (3rd place finish)
- Lauren J - East Bay Oakes 18U
- Julia J - East Bay Oakes 18U
- 2 athletes represented TP at the Ontario Summer Games
- Lauren J - Ontario Shamrocks
- Parker Turnbull - Team Toronto (1st place finish)



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2025 REP/SELECT PREVIEW



- TP is Fielding 14 competitive teams for 2025 between the ages of 9U-18U

New initiatives:

- **TP Fielding 'AAA' Teams** - This season, TP will be fielding teams at the 'AAA' level to provide athletes with more competitive playing opportunities
- **TP Hosting OBA-Sanctioned Tournaments** - TP will host officially sanctioned OBA tournaments, bringing high-level competition to our home fields

TP Community Initiated Programming:

- **Equipment Resale Market** - Designed to help lower the cost of baseball gear, extend the life of equipment, and make the game more inclusive and accessible for all families
- **Position-Specific Clinics** - Targeted sessions for athletes looking to develop skills specific to their position and elevate their overall performance



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2024 AWARD WINNERS



Participants of the year



Volunteers of the year

2025 TED SHARP BURSARY WINNERS



The bursary is open to eligible current or former TPBA players; staff or volunteers who are starting or continuing a post secondary education at an institution within Canada.

HOUSE LEAGUE HEROES



House League Heroes: Steve Smith & Sadie Whitfield-Smith

SPONSORSHIP INFO

For more information about sponsorship, click here: [SPONSORSHIP](#)