



**Winter Park Optimist
Long Leaf Park, Wilmington, NC
2026 Spring Baseball
baseball@wpo1954.com**

Thank you for your support of Winter Park Optimist (WPO) and our recreational baseball program. Each year since 1954, WPO serves about 500 local boys and girls by providing enjoyable opportunities to play organized baseball and softball. Our recreational programs safely accommodate youth from all backgrounds and skill levels. WPO's efforts extend well beyond recreational sports. Your support of our programs, as well as Christmas tree sales and our annual childhood cancer tournament and homerun derby, allows WPO to donate tens of thousands of dollars each year to local families fighting childhood cancer, the Lake Waccamaw Boys and Girls Home, and provides scholarships to several of our youth who are heading off to college. Additionally, WPO invests in field improvements at Long Leaf Park and supports local public-school athletics programs each year. All of this is made possible by your support.

If you are interested in supporting WPO at a corporate level by sponsoring a team, field sign, backstop camera or other donations, please us the "Sponsor" tab on our website.

2026 Spring Baseball Season Information

January 1 – Registration Opens (Spots are limited. When we reach capacity, registration will close.)
February 15 – Registration closes (NO LATE REGISTRATIONS)
February 17 – Coach's Meeting - 630pm
February 20 – Majors Tryouts
February 21 – Coach Pitch and Minors Tryouts
February 22 – Tryout Make-up Day (FOR RAINOUTS ONLY)
February 23-25 – Drafts (Head Coaches Only)
March 28 – Opening Ceremonies
March 28-29 – Strikeout Childhood Cancer Tournament
March 30 – Regular Season Games Start
May 14-15 – Regular Season Ends (T-ball Closing Ceremonies)
May 28-29 – Tournament Ends (Closing Ceremonies: Coach Pitch, Minors and Majors)

Additional Information:

- Games are played Monday – Thursday (expect to have Tball and Coach Pitch games on Fridays as well, along with rainout make-up games)
- WPO plays under the DYB (Diamond Youth Baseball) rules
- Registration fee is \$150
- Estimated number of games for the season is 12
- Each child receives a hat, jersey, belt, and socks (Tball will receive pants)
- Your child's age on May 1st determines what division he/she plays.
- Birth certificates may be checked - There is no "playing up" or "playing down"
- All bats must be unaltered USA bats and contain the USA logo, wood bats, or BBCOR
- TRYOUTS – If you are unable to attend tryouts, your child will still be placed on a team if they have been successfully registered for the season. There are NO requests (friends, players or coaches) in the spring in Coach Pitch, Minors, or Majors divisions. We will do our best to accommodate requests for Tball, but that is not guaranteed.