



**Winter Park Optimist
Long Leaf Park, Wilmington, NC
2023 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 or other donations, please email us.

2023 Season Information

Feb 26 – Registration closes (no in-person registration – online only)
Mar 3 – Major League Division Tryouts
Mar 4 - Coach Pitch & Minor Divisions Tryout (**T-ball doesn't tryout**)
Mar 5 – Tryout rain date for all divisions
Mar 6,7,8 – Teams formed via a draft (Coaches only in the WPO clubhouse)
Mar 9 – Practices start
April 14, 15, 16 – Opening ceremonies and the WPO Childhood Cancer Benefit Tournament
April 17 – May 25 – Regular Season Games
May 30 – Double elimination tournament begins

Additional information about our spring recreational baseball program:

- WPO plays under the Dixie Baseball rules
- Registration fee is \$125
- Each child in the minor and major divisions receives a sponsor hat and jersey
- Each child in T-ball and coach pitch divisions receives a hat, jersey, pants, and socks
- 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"
- Coach and player requests for tee ball only in the spring.
- All bats must be unaltered USA bats and contain the USA logo