



July 6, 2018

Madeira Beach Parks & Recreation 'R.O.C. the Barriers' Event to Feature Special Needs Athletes

MADEIRA BEACH, FL – On July 14th the City of Madeira Beach's R.O.C. Park, 200 Rex Place, will host "R.O.C. the Barriers", a very special event designed specifically for some very special athletes. Special needs athletes from around the Tampa region will compete in basketball, baseball, soccer, football and bowling.

"Special needs kids are just that; kids. They run, play, compete and win, but there just aren't that many opportunities out there for these kids to get on the field. We want to help change that," Jay Hatch, director, City of Madeira Beach Parks and Recreation.



Advanced registration for this free event is required and available by emailing rocthebarriers@gmail.com. Check-in begins at 9 a.m., events will be held from 10 a.m. to noon, and will be followed by lunch and an awards ceremony. Athletes will have access to cool-down stations throughout the park, with food and beverages available during the event.

"R.O.C. the Barriers is designed to focus on these kids' abilities, not their disabilities," said Hatch. "Staff and volunteers will be on hand to make sure every athlete is given the opportunity to leave it all on the field, and have a great time doing it."

The City of Madeira Beach Recreation Center, located in R.O.C. Park, is the home of the community's Parks and Recreation Department. Built in 2015 the facility offers multiple rooms, all with floor to ceiling windows and waterfront views, available for special events. The facility is complete with the latest networking technology, an outdoor stage and a catering kitchen.

R.O.C. Park offers three Division 1 softball fields, two tennis courts, and an outdoor basketball court. Mascots from several sports teams including the Rowdies, the Dunedin Blue Jays and others will be in attendance cheering on the athletes. For more information about the "R.O.C. the Barriers" event visit their [Facebook](#) page.

For more information about the City of Madeira Beach contact Curt Preisser, City of Madeira Beach Public Information Officer at 727-391-9951 x299 or cpreisser@madeirabeachfl.gov.