

Outdoor Ball Sports in the Basel Area

Soccer, or Fussball as it is called in this area of the world, is undoubtedly the most popular sport in Basel. In addition to our beloved FC Basel, every community has its soccer team, and most larger companies also have their own soccer leagues for employees. With soccer fields dotting the city's landscape, joining a soccer league is easy, and kids start training from a very young age. If you are interested in playing soccer, the options are plentiful—you can check with your Gemeinde (town offices) for a local team to join, talk to your HR about a company league, contact Basel-Stadt's Department of Education (www.sport.bs.ch) or the Sports Department Baselland (www.bl.ch/sportamt), or consider one of the bilingual organizations that offer soccer training and camps for kids, including Bartomé Soccer Academy (www.bartomesocceracademy.com) and Intersoccer (www.intersoccer.ch).

If you like the idea of playing an outdoor ball sport but soccer is not your first choice, a few organizations in the Basel area offer other forms of ball sports, including cricket, rugby, American football, baseball, and softball. With the new season starting now, it is a perfect time to check them out; you are always welcome to attend a free trial before joining.



Therwil Flyers Baseball and Softball Club

Founded in 1980, the Therwil Flyers was one of four founding members of the Swiss Baseball & Softball Federation in 1981. Today, the Federation comprises 20 clubs, and games are played throughout the country with Cup and National teams competing at the European level. The Flyers organization comprises the following teams: NLA Baseball (men), NLA Softball (women), NLB (men), Slowpitch (mixed), Cadets (under age 15), Juveniles (under age 12), and Tee-Ball (under age 8). Girls under age 15 train and play with the Cadets and Juveniles, but they would love to initiate a girls' softball team if they can attract enough players. In all, the Flyers hold 41 national champion trophies, including 11 for NLA Baseball and 12 for NLB Softball. The town of Therwil, just south of Basel-Stadt and easily reachable by tram, has generously supported the teams with practice facilities on Känelmattweg (<https://goo.gl/maps/vGpMyCLvrym>) and maintenance since the beginning. All teams conduct practices and games in both German and English. For further questions, check out the list of appropriate contacts on their website under "Kontakt." Additional information can be found on their website.

www.therwil-flyers.ch

Sissach Frogs Baseball & Softball Club

Another baseball and softball club in the Basel area are the Sissach Frogs. The club, which was founded in 1985, currently fields teams in the NLA Baseball (adults), 1. Liga Baseball (adults), Cadets (under age 15), and Juveniles (under age 12) categories. They are training in Sissach, about 25 minutes from Basel by car or train. To learn more, contact them via their website or their Facebook page (www.facebook.com/SissachFrogs).

www.frogs-baseball.ch

Basel Dragons Junior Cricket Club

Interested in cricket? The Basel Dragons, one of Switzerland's leading junior cricket clubs, offer training for boys and girls ages 7–17 who are interested in learning to play or furthering their cricket skills in a fun and structured environment with ECB-qualified coaches. Throughout the year, the U11, U13, U15, and U17 teams play competitive matches and participate in tournaments throughout Switzerland and Europe. Spring/summer outdoor training starts in April. Check the website for more details about times and locations of training for the different age groups. For further information and details on how to join the club, please contact the club secretary at secretary@baseldragonsjcc.com.

www.baseldragonsjcc.com



Basel Gladiators American Football Club

American football has a strong tradition in Basel, Switzerland, and other European countries. The sport is growing more rapidly in recent years, and the Gladiators are one of the stronger teams in the region. They have won championships at each level in Switzerland, and the adult team participates in European championships when finances permit. They offer U13, U19, and adult tackle football. They also have cheerleaders in three age groups, as well as non-contact football programs for young to mature. They play most of their home games at the Rankhof Stadium with a high view for fans that makes the game much more enjoyable. If you love to challenge yourself or just want to have a good time, contact them at infobaselgladiators@gmail.com, Instagram ([@baselgladiators](https://www.instagram.com/baselgladiators)), or on Facebook (www.facebook.com/baselgladiators/).

www.gladiators.ch



Rugby Football Club Basel

Whether you are looking for a fun way to be active, an opportunity to socialize, or a place to watch some amateurs of varying skill smash into each other—Rugby Football Club Basel offers all of the above and more. Founded in 1975, the club now fields several teams catering to all ages, including two men's, a ladies', and a mixed touch team as well as a juniors' section starting from age 4. While Swiss rugby used to be dominated by British expats, it now consists of an international mix, including a fair share of home-grown players. The club is always on the lookout for new members. Whether you're a retired pro or have only recently stumbled across the egg-shaped ball, all levels of fitness and experience are welcome. Don't worry if you've hung up your boots either—

you can enjoy the atmosphere at one of their home games (starting in April) or at the clubhouse bar. In addition to local brews, they usually have some food on the go. The teams generally train on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, at St. Jakob in the winter and at Pruntrutermatte for the rest of the year—details and maps for both locations can be found on their website. If you are interested or have any questions, don't hesitate to get in touch with them via their website, Facebook page (Rugby Football Club Basel), Instagram ([@rugbybasel](https://www.instagram.com/rugbybasel)) or by sending them an email to rfgb.committee@gmail.com.



www.rugbybasel.ch

