



## **Richmond County Baseball Club – 2017: The Year In Review**

As year-end approaches, we wanted to take this opportunity to thank you all for a very successful 2017. The Richmond County Baseball Club continues to reach new heights, and thanks go to all of our coaches, staff members, parents, players and sponsors.

Celebrating completion of our 14<sup>th</sup> year, the RCBC baseball program continues to thrive. This year, we had over 275 players on 15 teams ranging in age from 8 through 17. We also welcomed our first female member and sponsored our first team based in New Jersey.

Outstanding play was the order of the day again as we brought home a record 31 tournament championships and reached the championship game in 50 events. Over the past 4 years, RCBC teams have won 100 championships and reached the championship game in 180 events. No one gets to more championship games than RCBC. Our 14U Nationals team was ranked # 73 in the county by Perfect Game, the nation's largest tournament venue, based upon their performance in the BCS National Championship. And our 15U Nationals came in ranked # 115. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row RCBC has had a team ranked in the top 100 by Perfect Game. Congratulations go out to all of our teams.

We had another outstanding class of "graduating seniors," and the number now stands at over 220 RCBC players who have gone on to play at the collegiate level with millions of dollars in scholarship money. So far this year, we have had commits to Rutgers, Wagner, Concordia, SUNY Alfred State and CSI. Exciting news too as former RCBC standout Zack Granite was called up to the Minnesota Twins MLB team.

We continued to expand the tournaments hosted at the complex, with over 40 this year. These events continue to provide convenient and economical play for our teams, against some of the best competition from NYC, Long Island, New Jersey and beyond (over 170 organizations from 10 states and Canada). This year's participants included teams from Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, Massachusetts and Connecticut. We continued our partnership with Perfect Game, hosting a large number of sanctioned events for them

along with the prestigious Northeast Super Qualifier tournament for the 4th year in a row. We also implemented *Game Changer* for live game scoring for all Perfect Game events. And we were a host site again for Blue Chip Prospects and Triple Crown tournaments. With the number of teams now traveling to Staten Island for our events, we continue to provide significant economic benefit to local stores, restaurants and hotels.

This year, we partnered with Marucci Sports and were selected to be part of their Founders Club. In addition to supplying us with outstanding new uniforms, this partnership afforded our members great discounts on Marucci gear and apparel. Three of our teams also participated in the invite-only Marucci World Series in Baton Rouge, Louisiana where they competed against other Founders Club teams from around the country.

We hosted our 5<sup>th</sup> annual College Showcase Camp, giving our players direct access to some of the best colleges in the area. This year, we had 100 players and 20 outstanding schools in attendance. We also coordinated several mini-camps with West Point, Seton Hall and Wagner College. In collaboration with 5 Tool Baseball and AO Visual Media, we continued to offer our players the opportunity to create recruitment and highlight videos to help them market themselves to schools.

We continued to provide opportunities for players to advance their development year round, hosting our Winter Workouts at CSI for the 10<sup>th</sup> year, and running a summer youth baseball camp and winter hitting classes in collaboration with 5 Tool Baseball.

We continued to make on-field improvements to the Richmond County Youth Complex, and the quality and condition of our fields makes it one of the premier baseball facilities in the area. This year, we constructed a new outfield fence on field 1 and repaved the parking lot. We also installed Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) and trained staff members on their use in the event of an emergency. Thanks go to Councilman Steven Matteo for sponsoring them.

The RCBC website has now recorded over 380,000 visits and our social media reach includes Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and an RCBC You Tube channel. We continued to publish our monthly Newsletter, providing a vehicle to showcase our accomplishments.

And, we continued our support for the community with our involvement with a number of local programs, fundraisers and businesses.

We want to wish you all a very happy holiday season and best wishes for a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. Here's looking forward to another great season in 2018!

Nick and George