



Richmond County Baseball Club – 2018: The Year In Review

As year-end nears, we wanted to take this opportunity to thank you all for a very successful 2018. The Richmond County Baseball Club continues to reach new heights, and thanks go to all of our coaches, staff members, parents, players and supporters.

Celebrating completion of our 15th year, the RCBC baseball program continues to thrive. This year, we had over 200 players on 15 teams ranging in age from 7 through 17. We welcomed our first 7U team, a new 8U team and a 15U team based in New Jersey.

Outstanding play was the order of the day again as we brought home 24 tournament championships and reached the championship game in 42 events. Over the past 5 years, RCBC teams have won 124 championships and reached the championship game in 220 events. No one gets to more championship games than RCBC. Our 15U Nationals NJ team was ranked # 32 in the county by Perfect Game, the nation's largest tournament venue, based upon their performance at the BCS National Championship. And our 16U Nationals came in ranked # 107 based upon their strong performance at the PG World Wood Bat Championship in Georgia. This is the 3rd year in a row RCBC has had teams nationally ranked by Perfect Game. Congratulations go out to all of our teams for their excellent play.

We had another outstanding class of "graduating seniors," and the number of players who have gone on to play at the collegiate level continues to grow, having earned millions of dollars in scholarship money. This year, we had 23 college commits to Rutgers, Wagner, Lehigh, Molloy, Felician, LIU Post, SUNY Alfred State, SUNY Oneonta, Delaware State, Montclair State, FDU, Clark, Lynn, CSI, Dickinson and St Thomas Aquinas. Three former players (DeVito, Prato, DeGeorgio) excelled in the prestigious Cape Cod Summer League and are rising on the MLB draft radar screen. RCBC alum and Minnesota Twins outfielder Zack Granite was honored by the NY Professional Baseball Hot Stove League and presented with their Star Of The Future award. We also had three players (Bruno, Cancel, Cavalieri) compete in the Little League World Series in Williamsport, with Bruno tossing a perfect game in the Mid Atlantic regional championship game.

We continued to host tournaments at the complex, with 16 this year. Unfortunately, the large amount of weekend rain resulted in the cancellation of many events. Our tournaments however 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 180 organizations from 9 states and Canada). This year's participants included teams from New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, Massachusetts, Connecticut and as far as North Carolina, Florida, Minnesota and Montana. 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 5th year in a row. And we were a host site again for Blue Chip Prospects and Triple Crown tournaments. With the number of teams traveling to Staten Island for our events, we continue to provide significant economic benefit to local stores, restaurants and hotels.

We continued our partnership with Marucci Sports and are a valued member of their Founders Club. In addition to supplying us with outstanding uniforms, this partnership affords our members great discounts on Marucci gear and apparel. RCBC Management attended the first Founders Club Summit where we provided input on future Marucci products and apparel. Our 16U Nationals 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, making it to the semi-finals. We also opened a New Balance shoe store, giving our members excess to great footwear at discounted prices.

We hosted our 6th annual College Showcase Camp, giving our players direct access to some of the best colleges in the area. This year, we had 80 players and over 20 outstanding schools in attendance, as well as several pro scouts. We also coordinated two Perfect Game Showcases, the first to take place on Staten Island, with participants from all over the country. We also coordinated several mini-camps with Rutgers and Seton Hall. In collaboration with 5 Tool Baseball and LT 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 winter workouts and providing access to summer youth baseball camps and winter hitting classes in collaboration with 5 Tool Baseball.

Our elite coaching staff is second to none. We now have a presence in Moore, Farrell, St. Joseph By The Sea, Xaverian and Tottenville high schools, providing continuity in the development of many of our players across high school and summer travel baseball. We also hosted a free Coaches Clinic with 50 participants from both RCBC and other travel programs.

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 5 for a more realistic playing experience for our younger teams and added permanent safety covering on several dugouts.

The RCBC website has now recorded almost 400,000 visits and our social media reach includes Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and an RCBC You Tube channel. RCBC's Instagram now has almost 2,000 followers. We continued to publish our monthly Newsletter, providing another 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 2019!

Nick and George

