

April 2013

**Richmond County
Baseball Club**

1400 Travis Ave.
Staten Island, NY 10314

If you have any
interesting info or news
you would like included
in a future newsletter,
please email to
jim@rcbclub.com.

Visit our website at:

www.rcbclub.com

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RCBC Newsletter

Future College Prospect Showcase Camp

Do you have dreams of playing baseball in college? Is the potential for an athletic scholarship in your future? Then sign up for the Future College Prospect Showcase Camp August 20-21 at the complex. College coaches from Division I, II and III schools will be there, working on the field and evaluating players. Two days of intense workouts. Day 1— a professional style workout session where the coaches will evaluate your 5 tools (skills). Day 2 — a 9 inning scrimmage in a college game setting with college umpires. Pitchers will get to throw to live batters. Don't miss this opportunity, even if you're a fall 2013 high school sophomore or junior. Only \$495 for the two day camp plus a written evaluation at the end. Visit our new Showcase Camp website at www.rcshowcasecamps.com for more information and to register.

Richmond County Youth Complex

A tent was recently installed between the fields and the concession stand. This will provide additional shading for spectators during the hot summer months. Picnic tables are available under the canopy so fans can enjoy something from the concession stand while comfortably watching the games.



The new canopy



**Barios
In The House**

Reminder for
17/18U teams
Balance of your
registration fee
due by May 1



**Have you ordered
your RCBC gear?**

Barios Takes Over Complex Concession Stand

Barios, the renowned Italian dining and catering restaurant on Staten Island, will now be running the concession stand at the complex. The stand will feature pizza, hot sandwiches, burgers, hot dogs and other favorites. During tournaments and certain events, a BBQ will also be set up under the new canopy, making it even more convenient to get your meal without missing any of the action.

Richmond County Tournaments

The 2013 tournament season kicked off with the 13U April Fools Follies tournament at the complex April 13-14. Ten teams from NY and NJ competed, including our three 13U squads. In the championship game, the Northern Valley Ravens defeated the Central Jersey Stampede 5-4 with a dramatic comeback win in the bottom of the 7th. Visit our tournament website at www.rctournaments.com for more information and to view the full calendar.

Falcons Victorious In Spring Tournaments

Coach Joe Stauffer's 11U Falcons won the Cheesequake (NJ) tournament by defeating the Middletown Warriors 6-2 in the championship game. The team went 3-1, led by the timely hitting of Joe Palermo and solid pitching from Vin Nichilo, Kyle Otten and Anthony Manisero. Great pitching and aggressive baserunning were the key ingredients in a strong team effort.

The 11/12U Falcons won the Great Kills Easter Tournament by defeating the Staten Island Thunder 4-2 in the championship game. The team went 4-1, led by the timely hitting of Justin Silaro and solid defense by Nick Crowley. Shane Lopez and Nick Scala led a strong pitching performance during the tournament.

Online Apparel Store

Have you seen your teammates strutting their new RCBC logo apparel and wondered where they got it? Its from our new Online Apparel Store. Here you can purchase items such as tee shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, hats, pullovers and jackets directly and have them shipped to your door. To access the store, go to the link on the Main Menu of the RCBC website.



Coach Mike Lopiparo
College Placement Coordinator
Quality Control Coach

This month's baseball quote:

Jackie Robinson once said that
*"The way I figure it, I was even
with baseball. The game did as
much for me as I had done
for the game."*

If you want to voice a comment on
anything I write, email me at
mikelope19@aol.com



Coach Lope's Baseball Thoughts

GO TO THE COLLEGE WHERE YOU ARE WANTED

Many young players, as well as their parents, always feel they (or their sons) can play at big-time Division I colleges. They have a right to dream, especially if the player has had an excellent Little League career and continues the outstanding play as a teenager in summer ball and in high school. But in the long haul, players and their parents must be realistic. It is hard for many New York players to get recruited seriously by the big name baseball colleges.

I hate being the bearer of bad news, but its important that you get the proper and realistic information about the crazy world of college baseball recruiting. When I lecture parents and players about being realistic, a number of them look up in the air as if to say "Yeah, right; not my son."

There are always exceptions to the rule, but not that many.

If you play a very recruitable position (pitcher, catcher, shortstop); if you have good size or a skill that sticks out in a recruiter's face (great speed-fine power-92 mph fastball-great range) of if your grades also stick out, along with outstanding baseball ability, you have a better chance at a big name baseball school. But in New York, with facilities that are usually well below Richmond County (high school or sandlot) and questionable weather for almost half the year, and high school competition that is marginal, in many cases, recruiters at the top ranked colleges look elsewhere.

There are different levels of Division I, ranging from the teams that go in and out of the College World Series and Super Regionals, to a second level D-I group such as most teams in the Big East Conference to a third level of D-I which includes most of the teams in the local area that play in the MAAC

Coach Lope's Baseball Thoughts

GO TO THE COLLEGE WHERE YOU ARE WANTED

(continued)

Conference, Northeast Conference, Ivy League and Patriot League.

Most players in this area who play college baseball will end up at a low level Division I along with Division II or III. Some players who are grade-challenged start their college career at a junior college. Yes Stony Brook reached the College World Series and St Johns reached the Super Regional, but both rosters had a large number of players that competed at high school ball outside New York City. It doesn't mean that NYC players aren't good. They certainly are. But having been a college recruiter myself (St. Francis College), you tend to go to places where you have gotten players in the past. You may be an excellent player, but a recruiter from Florida State or Georgia Tech may lean towards high schools and summer programs in their area where they have grabbed star players in the past. Those places may get first priority...the recruiters are probably friendly with those coaches, just like Coach DeFendis and I have good contacts in this area.

My recommendation to NYC high school players is to "GO WHERE YOU ARE WANTED." Go where you hear the words from a recruiter "WE WANT YOU."

Remember this...there is a difference between "making a college team" and "playing on a college team." Can a number of NYC players make the roster of a good college? Probably...especially if your money is NOT athletic dollars, but instead academic or financial aid. BUT...if you are a player that has been a regular starter since T-ball, you are not going to settle for being a reserve player or a pitcher that isn't part of the team's conference rotation. If you are NOT a regular player by your sophomore year, then you will NOT be happy and may NOT want to keep playing baseball.

If you are interested in certain colleges, especially the top schools, take a look at their current roster. If you don't see many NYC players, then that should be a tip-off on how difficult it is to get recruited at those big name baseball schools. Keep in mind the large number of Division II and III teams that are very competitive, give you an excellent education and have fine baseball facilities!!!

I will be happy to answer your questions if you want to call or email me.

Coach Lope

917-517-6893

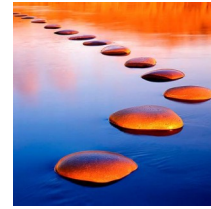
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Register for our Future College Prospect Showcase at www.rcshowcasecamps.com.

(See article on page 1)

Featured Article — Stumbling Block or Stepping Stone —The Choice Is Yours

By Coach DeFendis



Yes, it is easy to become that stumbling block without ever really seeing it. As a parent, you are supposed to want to help your child and see him reach his potential. But your dreams cannot be his dreams; his success cannot be based upon what you see as success. So step back and allow him to make mistakes and in doing so, his stumbling blocks become stepping stones in his learning process.

When it all comes down to it, a parent needs to be the one who is encouraging him to do his best, cheering for him at a game, critiquing the things he may have done wrong, but always finding a positive to keep the spirits high. I often use this saying “If you want something bad enough, you don’t need someone telling you how to get it.”

“What is it going to take to please him this time”

“I hope I can come through so he leaves me alone today”

“Can he ever say anything positive to me?”

“Will I ever be good enough for him?”

Most kids’ first thought is that of pleasing mom and dad. Then there is the thought of not letting your teammates down and finally the pressure to please yourself. The thoughts here are replayed over and over until they have been exhausted. This in turn brings the confidence level down to an all time low. And though most get it (their confidence) back, many are left with doubt and uncertainty. Funny thing too is that sports are about being confident. Usually the younger you are the more you tend to wear your emotions on your shoulders. “When I am going good, I am happy, but if I’m not, I don’t even know why I am playing this game.”

The choice is yours as a parent. Do you allow your son to grow as a player at his pace and trust us as coaches or do you become a stumbling block and end his baseball career?

The choice is yours.

Coach DeFendis