

September 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

Falcons and Nationals Capture Labor Day Title

The Manalapan Labor Day Classic tournament featured 2 RCBC championship teams. The 11U Falcons (playing 12U fall baseball) won their age division, defeating the Manalapan Braves 8-5 in the championship game. Coach Stauffer's team went 5-0 in the tournament, led by strong pitching from Joe Palermo, Joe Gulotta and Vin Nichilo. Kyle Otten was named MVP of the championship game with 3 hits.



In the 10U division, Coach Quinn's Nationals also posted a 5-0 mark on their championship run.

Welcome Funstation Ravens to RCBC

We are happy to introduce the newest team to join the RCBC family. Coach Joe Scarola and his Funstation Ravens will now be a new 12U team in the program called the RCBC Ravens. Please take the time to introduce yourself and extend a welcome if you see the team at the complex.



Get your fall
RCBC gear—
sweatshirts, hoodies,
pullover, jackets

Visit the Online
Apparel Store on
the RCBC website



Need new
equipment for the
fall season?
Remember that
Dick's Sporting
Goods discount
coupons are
available to all
RCBC members.
Good for all of 2013.
Go to the RCBC
website to print.

Check out the video
from our recent
College Showcase
Camp on the
RCBC website.

Richmond County Tournaments

This month we hosted the 18U Labor Day Classic, 13U Transition and 16U Future Prospect Fall Showdown tournaments at the complex.

The USC Knights captured the title in the 13U Transition Tournament while in the 16U Future Prospect Fall Showdown, the Tri State Arsenal won the championship. The RCBC Nationals reached the finals of the 18U Labor Day Classic before the tournament was suspended.

Upcoming tournaments at the complex:

- Johnny Ray Memorial Fall Classic (October 4-6)
- 18U Columbus Day Classic (October 12-14)
- 15U Spooktacular (October 19-20)

These will be our final tournaments of the year. For more information, visit our tournament website at www.rctournaments.com.

Johnny Ray Memorial Fall Classic

The 2nd annual Johnny Ray Memorial Fall Classic will be held at the complex October 4-6. The tournament honors the memory of Johnny Ray, a gift RCBC and Moore Catholic High School athlete who was tragically killed in a car accident in 2009. The tournament features 12 elite high school teams who will be competing for the crown. The schools are All Hallows, Cathedral Prep, Fordham Prep, Iona Prep, LaSalle Academy, Monsignor Farrell, Moore Catholic, Regis, St Joseph By The Sea, Salesian, Xaverian and Xavier.

All proceeds from the tournament will go to the Johnny Ray Foundation which assists local families in need. Last year's tournament proceeds went to help victims of Hurricane Sandy. All tournament related costs, including fields, baseballs, umpires, trophies and food are generously donated so that all proceeds can go to the Foundation. This year, we are fortunate to also have the Staten Island Yankees and Dick's Sporting Goods as sponsors. But the Foundation can use your help as well. If you are interested in making a donation to the Johnny Ray Foundation, please contact Nick DeFendis at 917-299-9211 or nick@rcbclub.com.



Coach Mike Lopiparo
College Placement
Coordinator
Quality Control Coach

This month's baseball quote:

Hall of Famer Ty Cobb once said *"Every great batter works on the theory that the pitcher is more afraid of him than he is of the pitcher."*

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



Rob Dadona

Coach Lope's Baseball Thoughts

ROB DADONA HEADING TO SETON HALL

Rob Dadona becomes the latest Richmond County player to join the shuttle that exists between our organization and Seton Hall. The superstar shortstop has given a verbal agreement to sign with the Pirates who have one of the great college baseball traditions in America.

Coach Nick DeFendis says Dadona and Seton Hall will be an excellent fit: "Dadona attracted the attention of Seton Hall right from the beginning. They liked the athleticism at shortstop, his speed on the bases and his consistent hitting." DeFendis says the interest was mutual "Rob knew that previous RCBC players went to Seton Hall and became top players."

Dadona will be following in the footsteps of Zach Granite. Both starred at Richmond County and like Granite, Dadona stars at Tottenville. And this past June, Granite got drafted out of Seton Hall and is now playing for the Minnesota Twins farm system. Just a couple of years ago, another RCBC player starred with the Pirates. Catcher Frank Esposito,

who now works with the RCBC players, was the catcher on the Seton Hall team that captured the prestigious Big East baseball championship. Esposito teamed with Granite on that title squad.

Winning a conference championship and getting drafted is certainly within reach for the star infielder. Rob certainly personifies the word student-athlete. Besides being one of the top players in the city, Dadona is one of the best students in the five boroughs. His grade average for three years in the honors program at Tottenville is just a shade under 100. However Rob swears he doesn't get punished if he brings home a test grade under 98. LOL. The shortstop also has close to 1800 on his SAT. Plain and simple, Seton Hall is getting the full package.

Naturally, Dadona is very excited about his commitment to Seton Hall and says playing at Richmond County made a big difference. "The Richmond County coaching staff instilled in me the values of hard work and sacrifice," say Dadona. "It's all paid off because I'm living my dream of playing Big East baseball at Seton Hall."

Featured Article — What Scouts Are Looking For

By Coach DeFendis

The following is a good overview of what many pro scouts look for by position.

Pitcher — Most scouts are looking for 3 basic qualities in a good pitching prospect:

1. Good size
2. Good arm action
3. Good arm strength

If you are a pitcher and you lack these skills, it is beneficial for you to work to attain these goals

Catcher — Catching is a blue collar job. A catcher must be a leader. So if you are lazy and quiet, this position is not for you. Qualities are:

1. Good arm strength
2. Quick feed
3. Agility

Years ago, we put the poorest athlete behind the plate. This is no longer true.

First Base — Must be one of the best hitters on the field and also have good power. So if you are a below average hitter, you will not progress at this position. Defensive skills are important, but if you swing a solid bat, you will be more of an asset as a player. Offensive capabilities are very important.

Second Base — Must be a very good athlete. You must have a combination of range, speed (foot speed) and hitting ability.

Shortstop — Must have great defensive skills, good arm strength, good agility and range. We can live with poor batting.

Third Base — Must have good bat; we can live with adequate defensive skills. You need good hitting ability and power.

Left Field — Must have good power and hitting ability. This is a position where you can afford to have a guy who has poor defensive skills but really has a good bat.

Center Field — Must have good speed; must be a lead-off type hitting. Must know how to bunt and hit the ball the other way. Arm strength and hitting power are not as critical at this position.

Right Field — Must have power and good arm strength. Must have the best arm in the outfield.

As you can see, the corner positions (1st, 3rd, left and right field) are offensive positions which must have your best hitters playing at these positions. Shortstop, 2nd, center field—these positions are called “up the middle” positions. That’s where your best athletes with good agility should be playing. Again, behind the plate, put your leader (vocal guy) there.

Sponsor Of The Month

Each month, we feature a local business that has supported or provided valuable services to Richmond County Baseball. Please help support them back.



Staten Island Mall

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