

May 2016

**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

MAY TOURNAMENT CHAMPS

The RCBC Nationals won the PGBA Staten Island Verrazano Classic tournament at the complex this month, their 2nd tournament championship of the season. Coach Quinn's squad went 5-0, scoring 63 runs while yielding only 10 on their championship run.

Year-to-date, RCBC has won 7 tournament championships while finishing as runner up in 6 others. No one gets to more championship games than RCBC!



Payment Reminder

If you still have a balance on your 2016 registration fee, please make your payment now. If paying by check, make out to RCBC and mail to 98 Tanglewood Drive, Staten Island, NY 10308. If paying by credit card, use the authorization form on the RCBC website.

Also, for those teams with additional tournament fees, full payment is due now.

Please remit by check or credit card.

If unsure of your balance, please contact jim@rcbclub.com.

Players will not be allowed to play in any tournament games until all fees are paid.

Tournament Update



PERFECT GAME

Poor weather conditions again in May resulted in the cancellation of several tournaments. In the PGBA Staten Island Verrazano Classic, the RCBC Nationals took the title in the 12U division while the 9ers Baseball Prime won out in 14U. In the PGBA Staten Island Show-down, the Jersey Storm defeated the RCBC Nationals to take the 10U crown while the US Elite East won in the 13U bracket.

Here's our upcoming lineup:

Memorial Day Classic (5/28-5/30) - 15U, 16U

PG Super25 Northeast Super Qualifier - 9U, 10U, 11U, 12U, 13U

18U Invitational Shoot For The Stars (6/10-6/12)

Schools Over Spectacular (6/17-6/19) - 12U, 15U

PG Super25 Mid Atlantic Super Qualifier (6/17-6/19) - 17U

Start of Summer Classic (6/24-6/26) - 12U

Visit www.rctournaments.com for more information and to view the full year schedule.

Coaches will soon be distributing 2 wristbands to each player, entitling the wearer to free daily admission to each Richmond County summer tournament. Children under 18 are always free.





Coach Mike Lopiparo
College Placement
Coordinator
Quality Control Coach

This month's
baseball quote:

Former Super Bowl
coach Joe Gibbs said:

*"The will to win is
meaningless if you don't
have the will to prepare."*

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



Coach Lope's Baseball Thoughts

BE COACHABLE

A group called "Positive Performance" recently wrote about an athlete's ability to be either Coachable or Uncoachable. Coach DeFendis put it on Facebook, and since stealing allowed in baseball, I decided to appropriate it. LOL. It's that important!!!!

Coaching young players is never easy. It's hard, in baseball, to give lots of playing time like it is in football or basketball where situations are part of the game's flow.

So the last thing a coach needs is to have problems dealing with players who are unwilling to listen and learn. Here is a checklist you can use to see where your son ranks. Let's begin with what Positive Performance considers characteristics of a "Coachable Player:"

- A. Being grateful that a coach cares enough to push you to improve beyond where you would get on your own. After all, you play at RCBC to get better at your game.
- B. Understanding you aren't perfect and still have things to learn about baseball.
- C. Understanding that being criticized or, at times, yelled at by a coach is part of the learning process

and nothing personal.

D. Working to eliminate any bad habits.

Being uncoachable has no assets. You don't want to be a player who gets that reputation. Nothing is gained by being known as a "head case" or being called a "player that is goo, BUT...." Below are some traits of uncoachable players:

- A. Rolling your eyes....mumbling under your breath....or walking away when a coach is trying to tell you something to improve your game.
- B. Taking it personally if any non-positive thing is said to you. Acting like you know everything. "You're telling me what to do...I've been a star since I was in t-ball."
- C. Reading into things more than you should such as the coach doesn't like you or the coach only picks on me, etc.
- D. You think the team is ONLY about you and your needs. Acting self-centered...only doing what you feel like doing.

Those are the good and the bad characteristics. Parents can help the situation. You can emphasize to your son the need to be a team player.



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Coach Lope's Baseball Thoughts

BE COACHABLE (continued)

Those were the Positive Performance characteristics. But there are other traits for both that I would like to bring up when it comes to being a teammate.

A. Don't ridicule teammates that may NOT have the best ability. If anything, try to help them get better. Don't ignore teammates with lesser ability like you're too good to talk to them.

B. Don't be griping if the team is in a losing streak or loses either a close or big game. Don't make it seem like it's everyone's fault but yours the team lost.

C. Don't be someone that changes teams every year. That can make college recruiters ask questions about your loyalty. It also makes you seem self-centered.

D. Don't argue with your coach in front of your teammates and certainly don't yell at a teammate.

E. Don't only talk about yourself and brag about your own ability. Root hard for your teammates and let them know when they do a good job.

F. Don't give the third base coach a dirty look when you get a sacrifice bunt or take sign or get pinch-hit

for.

G. If you're not in the starting lineup, don't have a long face on the bench, complaining that you should be playing, and not rooting for your team to win or your teammates to do poorly.

H. PARENTS - DO NOT STICK YOUR HEAD INTO THE DUGOUT TO QUESTION THE COACH ON WHY YOUR SON ISN'T STARTING.

I. PARENTS - DO NOT GIVE LONG STARES TO THE COACH IF YOU DISAPPROVE OF SOMETHING.

The last two suggestions for parents may not be directly about being a teammate. But in a way it is!!!! If you complain about EVERYTHING, you son gets the idea that he can do what he wants, knowing you will run to defend him.

Any comments, please email me at mikelope19@aol.com.

Featured Article - The Problem Of Entitlement**By Coach Nick DeFendis**

In case you haven't noticed, society has done a 180 in the last few decades. The "we" generation switched over to the "me" generation quite awhile ago. Twitter, Facebook, Pinterest, Instagram, chat rooms, cell phones and the Internet in general - all these things have given people a voice they feel is just as important as anyone else's and an inflated sense of self-worth. The age of enlightenment has met the age of entitlement. Coaches can still use the old adage "There is no I in team" all they want but more and more it's falling on deaf ears as the next crop of athletes comes through the doors. At least that's what I've been hearing from those who've been around the college game the longest. They say "the biggest thing wrong with college baseball today is entitlement." Today, players come to college having played on travel squads, all star teams and select teams. They have been told their entire lives how great they are, knowing that million dollar paydays lie ahead if their skills are as good as people keep telling them. They are given everything they need so coaches have to work hard on core values and continue to enforce them. At some of the big college programs, if a player throws down a towel, there is probably somebody there making a diving stab to catch it before it hits the floor.

Coaches need to get their players in tune with how fortunate they are and how they should appreciate the change in climate for teenagers and young adults because the world has become so different. The main thing to get across to each player is that it's a privilege to play this game; they have to learn to appreciate that. What is important is not the nice amenities and rock star status, it's the game that adds to their experience in life. The game is going to provide opportunities. Be thankful for that. Be humbled by that. This is a game you love and care about. It's all about learning to get the excitement out of it and learning how to deal with a mini crisis. Because in life you are going to have a lot of bigger crises to deal with. That's what makes baseball such a great metaphor for life!

SAVE THE DATE. COME OUT TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT.

Join One on One Physical Therapy
at Richmond County Bank Ballpark at St. George for the

Met **HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL SENIOR GAME** **North Shore LIJ** Staten Island University Hospital
& Autism Awareness Fundraiser

COME ON ONE
physical & occupational therapy
Sports Rehabilitation

Saturday, July 30
Doors Open: 12pm
Game Time: 1pm
Honoring two local Staten Island children
Julianna Russo
Anthony Dimasi

Bring the whole family!
Raffles, prizes, 50/50 and FUN ZONE for kids!
\$10 per ticket, kids free (10 & under)
For pre-sale tickets call:
• Mike Mauro (One on One PT) at 347.288.5609
Tickets will be available day of game at the main gate

A \$2500 SCHOLARSHIP will be
awarded to one high school player
from the game!

LOOKING FOR CORPORATE SPONSORS TOO



2016 Annual High School Senior Baseball All Star Game & Autism Awareness Fundraiser (Sponsored by THE ONE ON ONE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION)

On Saturday July 30th, 2016, the One On One Physical Therapy Charitable Foundation will host the Annual “Senior” Baseball All Star Game at the home of the Staten Island Yankees – Richmond County Bank Ballpark. The game involves recently graduated Seniors of both the Public and Private School’s Baseball teams on Staten Island. One Player is awarded a \$2,500 College Scholarship from the One On One Physical Therapy Charitable Foundation based upon a life-experience essay. The game is also an Autism Awareness Fundraiser, and 2 families that experience the challenges of having children with Autism will be honored at the event. All proceeds of the event go to Autism Awareness. Any assistance you can give in making this event a success is greatly appreciative.

Sponsorship Levels

“GOLD” Sponsor - \$5,000 ____

“SILVER” Sponsor - \$3,000 ____

“BRONZE” Sponsor - \$1,500 ____

Other amount \$_____

All Sponsorships / Donations are Tax-deductible contributions.

Please make Checks out to: THE ONE ON ONE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

A not-for-profit organization (501C3 ID # 46-2793602)

Additional Information: Mike Mauro (347) 288-5609