



## **CBS Kiwanis Minor Baseball Association**

### **2024 Female Baseball in CBS**

On April 13, 2024, CBS hosted its second annual Female Baseball Day with the support of NL Baseball. Forty-one individuals were registered for the event which was intended to introduce more females to the sport of baseball.

This was the second year that CBS had a female only team. The 12U Raiders were comprised of 15 females with ages ranging from 9 to 12. Interest in the 12U division was strong and unfortunately, we were not able to accommodate every individual who expressed interest.

They participated in the “League of Their Own”, an all-female baseball league started by St. John’s Baseball in 2018. The 12U Raiders played in weekly games against all female teams from Mount Pearl, Paradise, and St. John’s. Paradise had four 12U teams, Mount Pearl had two 12U teams and St. John’s had four 12U teams.

The CBS 12U A Raiders also participated in two invitational tournaments, the St. John’s hosted Mike Buist Classic and the Paradise hosted Heather Healey. These tournaments also provided an opportunity to call CBS female players from other divisions (11U) to participate as alternate players.

The CBS Minor Baseball Association hosted the 12U A Provincials from Aug 30 to Sept 1, 2024. Six teams from across the province took part in the provincial tournament, with Paradise Phantoms being crowned the provincial champions. The town of CBS, Mr. Barry Petten, Ms. Pam Parsons all came out to show their support for the growth of female baseball in CBS.

The 2024 baseball season included 34 female registrants across all programming, this is an exciting increase from the 19 female registrants in 2023.

Players and Parents shared the following feedback:

- “The girls had fun!”
- “Overall, I was super impressed with the coaching/team spirit/positivity of the experience. More practices would have been great.”



- “I really enjoyed watching them come together and grow as a team. The girls grew their love of baseball during the summer, and I am looking forward to watching them all grow even further as athletes next season. Let’s go Raiders!”
- “Positive coaching, and fantastic opportunities to play with the LOTO”

### **Lessons Learned:**

There is a great deal of interest in female baseball in CBS, and I believe that interest will continue to grow as female baseball receives more attention locally, and at venues like the Canada Games.

Next season, at a minimum, there will be enough interest for a 14U female team, and two 12U female teams. Interested individuals have already enquired about registration for next season.

- CBS Minor Baseball is committed to furthering the growth of female baseball and will work to anticipate registration demands.

Parents and players expressed interest in having additional practices to advance their player skills. During the 2024 season, we held a player training session with an invited coach. We also invited CBS female baseball player, Cecily Davis, to participate in the warm-ups for the provincial tournament.

- CBS Minor Baseball will identify and foster additional growth opportunities for female athletes in the baseball program in CBS.

