



Kanata Cubs 11U T2 Rep Baseball



Hello everyone, my name is Marek Driver and I'm the coach of this year's 11U – Tier 2 Kanata baseball team. I've been asked by Kanata baseball to provide a brief description of myself, so here we go!

I grew up playing baseball on the West-Island of Montreal. After playing 2 years of Midget AAA, I tried out and made the team of former Montreal Expo Ron Hunt in St-Louis Missouri, where I played for 3 summers. After that I played one summer for former Yankees rookie coach Ralph Bufero in Tampa, Florida. From there, I earned an NCAA DIV I scholarship to Troy University.

The year I graduated from Troy University, I was only 1 of 2 players born in Quebec to have the honour of playing NCAA DIV I. The road I took to get to where I played was a unique one, and in turn it gave me a unique perspective on the game. For the past 20+ years that I've been coaching baseball, softball, or hockey I have always, and will always, keep the focus on development and having fun. I never coach to win games in games, I coach to win games in practices.

In my opinion practices are the lifeblood of development and it's where players actually improve. Games are fun but seeing a couple of pitches in a game or having a few balls hit your way is not a recipe for dramatic improvement. As coach I'll make sure I do my best to give everyone equal playing time and equal at bats throughout the season. Players will get the opportunity to play different positions, and the batting order will rotate every game to try and make sure at bats are staying equal. Practices will be mainly focused on skill/technique development like fielding, throwing, catching, and hitting.

My only expectation of the players is that they come to the field ready to learn and work hard. I don't set attendance requirements because I shouldn't have to. If your son loves the game of baseball, then he'll only miss for good reasons. If I'm doing my job correctly, your son will be waiting for you in the car before every practice or game yelling at you that you're going to be late.

At this point the only season overview I can give you is pretty vague. We'll be looking to start indoor training the first week of January until the end of April at Sooners MegaDome. Once the fields open in May, we're looking at 1-2 games per week, 1-2 practices per week, and a couple of tournaments. I've been told that team fees for all this usually comes in at \$500 per player, but this is currently a guesstimate.

If anyone has any questions, or concerns, about anything that I wrote above, please don't hesitate to contact me. I can be reached through email at 11ut2@kanatabaseball.com, or by cell phone at 613-983-2727.

I think that's it for now. I'm looking forward to meeting everyone in person and having a fun year at the diamond.

Thanks.

Marek