

# RCBA Start of Season Newsletter



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# Welcome Letter from President

Dear Parents and kids,

As we embark on the 2024 baseball season, I extend a warm welcome to each and every one of you. It's an honor to witness the passion and dedication that you bring to the field and I am excited to see what this season has in store for you.

To the parents, thank you for your unwavering support and encouragement. Your commitment to your children's growth and development both on and off the field is truly commendable.

To the young athletes, remember that every practice, every game, is an opportunity to learn, grow, and have fun. Embrace the challenges of the game, the joy of competition and the chance to make new friends!

Let's make this season one to remember, filled with teamwork, sportsmanship, and unforgettable moments. I hope you all enjoy the 2024 season!

Nav Sekhon

President

RCBA

## Division & Teams Overview

We have the largest group of Chuckers registered for the 2024 season since the impact of Covid, especially in some of our younger divisions. It's great to see interest building in the sport and we are excited to see the development for all players over the course of the season!

### 18U Division - Midget

This division comprises of players born in 2006, 2007 & 2008, including Aug-Dec 2005, many of which have played for Richmond Chuckers teams for many years, all the way from 5u. The program includes a competitive rep AAA team, and two recreational level AA team. Practices and games at this age group are located at Latrace field.

**Division Coordinator – Warren Stevenson**

### 18U AAA Team

Congratulations to the players who were selected to the 2024 18U AAA roster!

**Head Coach – Pat Whalen**



### 18U AA Teams

Team 1 Head Coach – Brent Lexier

Team 2 Head Coach – Jon Winebrenner

## **15U Division - Bantam**

This division comprises of players both in 2009 or 2010 and includes a competitive rep AA team and three recreational level A teams. Practices and games at this age group are located at **Blundell field**.

**Division Coordinator – Melissa Harvey-Wong**

## **15U AA Team**

Congratulations to the players who were selected to the 2024 15U AA roster!

**Head Coach – Brad Swanson**



## **15U A Teams**

Team 1 Head Coach – Aaron Truelove

Team 2 Head Coach – Curtis Moser

Team 3 Head Coach – Cole Brielli



### 13U Division - PeeWee

This division comprises of players both in 2011 or 2012 and includes a competitive rep AA team and three recreational level A teams. Practices and games at this age group are located at Palmer field.

**Division Coordinator – Maiky Groberman**

### 13U AA Team

Congratulations to the players who were selected to the 2024 13U AA roster!

**Head Coach – Curtis Tomei**



### 13U A Teams

Team 1 Head Coach – Sean Bromilow

Team 2 Head Coach – Ben McConnell

Team 3 Head Coach – Alex Homeniuk

## **11U Division - Mosquito**

This is our largest division in the organization, the first division that combines two age groups (2013 & 2014) and is also the first full season of live player pitching. There are also 2 extra Mosquito Select Exhibition Teams (MSET) that provides extra training and a more competitive level of play against other associations at the same time the Spring season runs.

### **Division Coordinator – Della Chen**

#### **11U Teams**

Team 1 Head Coach – Johnny Wang

Team 2 Head Coach – Derek Reid

Team 3 Head Coach – Darren Roberts

Team 4 Head Coach – Fraser Hartley

Team 5 Head Coach – Sam Lin

Team 6 Head Coach – Robin Barlow

Team 7 Head Coach – Shaun Hirtle / Farouk Karim

## **8U / 9U Division - Tadpole**

The Tadpole division is an exciting time for our younger age players because players continue to develop their baseball skills with an introduction to a more competitive level of play. Pitching is mostly done with a mechanical pitching machine with live pitching introduced later in the second year. This is also the first age group that a competitive summer team plays.

### **8U Division Coordinator – Mel Lui & Shawna Hedges**

#### **8U Teams**

Team 1 Head Coach – Tristan Fabian

Team 2 Head Coach – Mel Lui

Team 3 Head Coach – Graeme Coutts

Team 4 Head Coach – Bryce Wong

### **8U Division Coordinator – Alanna McConnell**

#### **9U Teams**

Team 1 Head Coach – Bryan Mihic & Dan Mansoor

Team 2 Head Coach – Ben McConnell & Chad Pederson

Team 3 Head Coach – Dave Ko

## **5U / 6U / 7U Division – Rally Cap**

We love seeing our future baseball stars at this age having fun on the field. We run the Rally Cap program for these age groups that is specifically designed for younger players to increase interest in the sport. Our goal is to provide a fun environment to teach fundamental baseball skills so the players fall in love with baseball and continue to play for many years.

### **7U Division Coordinator – Scott Ingram**

#### **7U Teams**

Team 1 Head Coach – Scott Ingram

Team 2 Head Coach – Adam Cyr

Team 3 Head Coach – Marisa Matsuzaki

Team 4 Head Coach – Michael Lipton

Team 5 Head Coach – Jason Dale

Team 6 Head Coach – Simona Zoccolan

### **5U/6U Division Coordinator – Yaz Jallad**

#### **6U Teams**

Team 1 Head Coach – Lee Labas

Team 2 Head Coach – Ernesto Ayala

Team 3 Head Coach – Alex Salameh

Team 4 Head Coach – Clement Chan

Team 5 Head Coach – Bryan Mihic

Team 6 Head Coach – Christopher Daum

Team 7 Head Coach – Orin Gavsie

Team 8 Head Coach – Sam Khan

Team 9 Head Coach – Tim Whitehead

#### **5U Teams**

Team 1 Head Coach – Scott Ingram

Team 2 Head Coach – Stephanie Askwith

Team 3 Head Coach – Yaz Jallad

Team 4 Head Coach – Paul Bhangle

## 2024 Special Events

Throughout the season there are a few special events that we love to see lots of our Chuckers gather to cheer on our teams as they compete, or to participate in different events that joins the baseball community together.

### 11U MSET May Long Weekend Tournament

The 11U MSET program is an additional competitive team that plays in addition to the normal spring season against other organizations. We are hosting a tournament over the May Long Weekend which should see 4 – 6 teams competing at a high level at this age group. Tournaments are also a great way to get involved and supplement volunteer hours by helping with the grounds crew, scorekeeping, pitch counting, etc.

**Division: 11U (two Chuckers teams - 2013 & 2014)**

**Dates: May 18 – 20**

**Field: Palmer**



*Palmer field looking great at the start of the tournament*

### Chuckers Day 2024

This is an annual event to gather our young Chuckers players together to celebrate spring season. Players can come for some fun games with prizes and snacks. We normally wait until the weather is a bit nicer so stay tuned for more information!

**Division: ALL**

**Dates: TBD**

**Field: Palmer**



## New Umpire Guidelines

Umpires are an integral part of the Richmond City Baseball Association (RCBA). All guidelines and policies on providing a safe, fair, and fun environment for players also applies to our umpires.



***Even Calvin and Hobbes have close calls!***

RCBA would like to make clear that abuse of any umpire is unacceptable, and coaches, managers, players, and spectators may be subject to sanctions as outlined by both RCBA and BC Minor Baseball Association (BCMBA) discipline policy.

This is not intended to imply that the umpire is always right, and the spectator, coach or player is always wrong. We must simply remember that just as players and coaches will make mistakes during play, umpires will also make mistakes in officiating, particularly in the younger divisions where they are learning how to umpire.

We love hearing lots of cheering from our spectators, but any negative comments will not be tolerated. The best thing to do is place yourself in the umpire's position. Have you ever officiated a game, and if so, have made an incorrect call or a call you are unsure of? Just like hitting a baseball or throwing a strike, umpiring may look easy when watching it but it's a very difficult job.

***If you feel like you are starting to "get hot" by the way a game is going...***

***Take a short cool down walk away from the field  
The break will help you enjoy the rest of the game***

Please visit <https://www.richmondcitybaseball.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/3277/2024/04/RCBA-Zero-tolerance-umpire-bullying.pdf> to view the full policy.

## Sponsorship Recognition

We would like to thank all our sponsors for continuing to support our organization! Their donations help us provide the best baseball experience for our young players and grow the sport in Richmond.

