

Show class, have pride, and display character. If you do, winning takes care of itself.

-Paul "Bear" Bryant

I have enjoyed the time I have spent with the 12u Bandits this year. This group loves to play and loves to learn. Brought together for the first time this year, under two coaches they never met, the chemistry amongst this group is tremendous. Most boys on this team go to school together and play together in town ball; however, some are new but the rest have welcomed them in with open arms. The team has been very successful in their first year and has qualified for the AAU playoffs. Most of that is due to the great work put forth by the coaching staff of Anthony, Rob and Bob Melchionda. But, respect should also be given to another key contributor to the 12u Bandit's success, a leader of the team, and the May Athlete of the month, Joey Norton.

Joey Norton has been with the Braintree Baseball Club since the beginning. When we started Fall Baseball in 2013, he was one of the first to sign up and has played every year since. I have never seen Joey without a smile while at the club or on the field. He truly is a great teammate who always works hard and is an exceptional leader. Most importantly he always displays a respect for the game with his hustle and enthusiasm. He is the rare type of athlete that you hope others watch, admire and take note. His character and attitude are contagious to those around him and I believe that is why the 12u team has been so successful. After speaking with coaches Anthony and Rob, they said "Joey Norton has been one of our most consistent players all season. He makes all of the routine plays at short and never gives away an at bat at the plate. He is also hitting about .600 for the year. Above all, Joey is a great teammate. He has been a pleasure to coach and is well deserving of Player of the Month honors." Joey also notably receives accolades from his teachers at East Middle School who state that he takes great pride in his work done in the classroom.

We thank you Joey for all your hard work and leadership. Keep doing your family and town proud.

Sincerely,

James Joyce