

Be more concerned with your character than your reputation, because your character is what you really are, while your reputation is merely what others think of you.

-John Wooden

Fall Baseball has been a growing program at the baseball club. In 2014, our first year, we had a group of roughly twenty 10-12 year olds in the program playing in-house scrimmages on the weekends. This year the program included over 150 athletes ranging from ages 8 to 18. During the Fall, skill development and character building are higher priorities than winning. This Fall, I have been fortunate to witness great leadership and character. Many players were chosen as potential candidates for the September Athlete of the Month. Tucker Erdody, 15u team, was recognized for his great leadership; a true coach in the making. Owen Letteney, 13u team, has one of the best characters in the building and has truly shined during this Fall. In the end though, coaches agreed that Zach Delgrosso truly deserved to be the September Athlete of the Month.

As I write this I am reminded of earlier in the night when I saw Zach arrive to practice. He greeted the staff with a big smile and hello just like every other time he has entered the building. Dressed in proper attire for practice and games he is always ready to go to work. Jack and Sean Twohig have been working with Zach this Fall and stated, "Zach always leads stretching/throwing at games and practices. He never asks if he can play this position or that he just goes where told which is refreshing". Bill Berman, Zach's AAU coach said, "Zach was an alternate on the 11u team last year and he never complained about his role. He would travel with the team to New Hampshire on the weekend not knowing whether or not he would see the field. However, his hard work all season and now this Fall earned him a full spot on the 12u team". Lastly, Matt McGrath, 12u Fall coach, stated when the votes were counted that Zach 100% deserved the award.

For the 10-12u Fall group this year, wins have been difficult to find but I can tell by listening to the coaches that the boys are enjoying themselves and there is no doubt that they are learning the game and getting better in the process. Athletes like Zach, constantly modeling great character and leadership, deserve as much credit as the coaches for the successful group. Congratulations Zach on your award. In a season where there are many who have had success and portrayed great character, you stand out amongst the crowd.

Thank You

Jim Joyce