

DUGOUT CHATTER – June 2019

By: Rick Zollner – Pipestone Area

President MSHSBCA

Many changes will be coming to the MSHSBCA in July. John Wilkens will be stepping down from our association. He has done just about everything for the last 40 years for the MSHSBCA! He will be greatly missed. This also opens the opportunity for coaches to be involved in our great organization. If you wish to be involved please reach out to any of the advisory or executive board members.

I would like to thank the Minnesota Twins and President Dave St. Peter for hosting the Prep Championship Series at Target Field on Thursday, June 20th. The Class A game starts at 10:00am followed by AA at 1:00pm, AAA at 4:00pm, and finishing with Class AAAA at 7:00pm.

The 2019 Play Ball! MN All-Star Baseball Series will be played at Athletic Park in Chaska June 28-29. This will be the 45th anniversary of the all-star series. Before players compete in a game they will be helping to serve others by coaching at a Miracle League Clinic and a Twins Clinic. Other players will help package food for Feed My Starving Children. The Cambria Home Run Derby, sponsored by B.I.G Athletics starts at 11:00am Friday, June 28th with games beginning at 12:30pm and ending with the championship game on June 29th at 7:00pm.

Our incredible group of coaches for the 2019 Series are: Brandon Raymo (Montevideo), Aaron Nesvold (Sleepy Eye), Paul Walsh (Parkers Prairie), Brian Gruber (Minnewaska), Rob Walsh (Burnsville), Jim Gess (Bloomington Jefferson), Rob Garry (Mahtomedi), Mike Parker (Stillwater), Jon Ledebor (Heritage Christian Academy), Brooks Marquart (Maple Lake), Danny Nalepka (Fridley) and Cole Deible (Monticello). Thank you coaches for taking time out of your busy lives to help coach the 104 all-star players!

The 12th Annual Junior Showcase will be held on July 11th at Becker Park on the campus of St. John's University. Up to 150 invited juniors (senior class of 2020) will be showcasing their baseball talents. No games will be played. Players will work out at just one position, other than pitchers who may work out at another position. All players will take batting practice. All players will be timed in the 60 yard dash. Catchers will be timed and gunned on their throws to second. Outfielders will show their arm strength with throws from right field to third base and home plate. First basemen will field ground balls at first base and show their arm strength on throws to third base. Shortstops, second basemen and third basemen will field ground balls at shortstop and show their fielding ability and arm strength with a variety of throws to first base. Pitchers will throw 12 pitches off the bullpen mound, showing their fastball, breaking ball and change-up. Many college coaches and pro scouts will be in attendance.

The MSHSBCA Fall Baseball Clinic will be October 25, 26, and 27. There is a new location this year. It will be held at the Double Tree in St. Louis Park. This is a wonderful site for all our exhibitors to showcase their products. I would also like to congratulate the Hall of Fame class for 2019. These excellent coaches will be honored on Saturday, October 26 at 7:00pm. The following is a list of the 2019 HOF. Dale Bruns (Holdingford), John Fellows (Ortonville), Hans Hanson (Perham), Jack Kelly (Windom), Bill Lechner (Hill-Murray) and Bucky Lindow (Cannon Falls). More information is available at www.mshsbca.org.

Congratulations to the following MSHSBCA Scholarship winners. Brady Bean (Farmington), Regan Carlson (KMS), Ty Christensen (GSL), Andrew Enck (Edina), Matthew Enck (Edina), Logan Hermer (Mankato East), Reid Homann (Pipestone), Jason Kaul (Blaine), Dylan Notsch (Sartell), Jacob Prybylla (Mankato East), Benjamin Schommer (Cambridge-Isanti), Tanner Stein (Park Center), Josh Tinklenberg (Pipestone) and James Wold (St. Anthony Village).

Please remember to update your membership to the MSHSCA and the MSHSBCA for 2019-2020. The membership provides liability insurance that we all need plus it provides eligibility for your players to receive post-season awards. Also, consider membership in one or both of the national associations (BCA or ABCA). Additionally, follow us on Twitter @mshsbca, and continue to check for update information and what is going on at our website; www.mshsbca.org. Also, at this link you can check out all the current baseball records in the state of Minnesota. If a player of yours tied or broke any records please contact Tink Larson at tlarson@hickorytech.net.