**March 2021** 

## Richmond County Baseball Club

1400 Travis Ave. Staten Island, NY 10314

If you have any interesting info or news you would like included in a future newsletter, please email to jim@rcbclub.com.

Visit our website at:

www.rcbclub.com

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## RCBC Newsletter

## East Coast Invitational Added to Tournament Schedule

## EAST COAST INVITATIONAL marucci

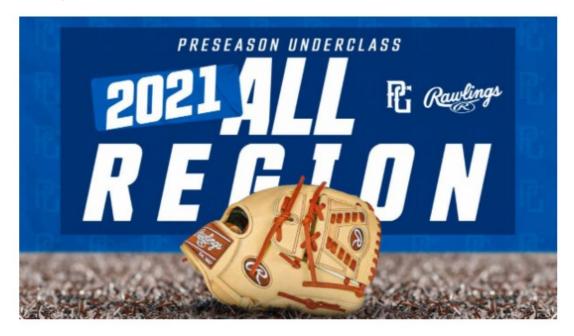
In addition to our full slate of Perfect Game events, we announced that we will be hosting the East Coast Invitational tournament on August 13-15 2021.

Powered by Marucci, the event will feature competition in 10U, 11U, 12U, 16U and 17U divisions as well as Marucci product demos and prizes. Spread the word with the teams you compete against as spots are limited.



- Tournament fee schedules have now been communicated to players on teams 12U-16U. Payment plan options have been set up in your LeagueApps account and you can easily schedule automatic credit card payments on the due dates. Payment can also be made by check made out to RCBC, Venmo to Nicholas-DEFENDIS or cash.
- Please ensure that you are signed up to receive text message alerts from RCBC. You can do in two easy steps. Go to your LeagueApps account and enter your mobile number, then verify it to "Opt-In." We can't reach you with important announcements or information unless you sign on.
- Reminder for 15U-16U players to keep your SportsRecruits profile updated and tag favorite schools via the college search feature. Videos are critical so continue to upload from any of your indoor workouts.
- Tournament season at the RC Complex begins next month with the 13U
   PG Super25 Northeast Spring Super Qualifier April 23-25.
- Spread the word regarding our annual College Showcase Camp August 17-18. Players from outside the program are welcome to attend only \$399 for the two day camp. They can register at www.rcshowcasecamps.com.
- March is Women's History Month and RCBC is making history with our first ever female coaches. Check out Coach Lope's article on pages 7-9.

#### **RCBC Players Named To PG Pre-Season All American Teams**



Perfect Game and Rawlings announced their 2021 Pre-Season All American Teams to recognize the top underclass baseball players in the country. Congratulations to the following RCBC 16U Nationals players who received Honorable Mention in the Northeast Region:

Gregory Bruno, Ronin Lee, Robert Rispoli, Dante Vernieri

Also receiving Honorable Mention based upon their 2020 performance:

Patrick Burns, PJ Craig, Christian Rice, Collin Kratzer, Liam Murphy, Christopher Polemeni, Anthony Belisario, AJ Vigliotti

Congratulations to all.

### **March Tournament Champs**



10U Americans

USABL
St. Patrick's

Day Classic

12U Americans
USABL
Spring Blast



#### **March Tournament Champs**



10U Nationals
USABL
Spring Fling

Congratulations too to the 9U Nationals on their runner up finish in the Diamond Nation Spring Invitational.

# **2021 RCBC Marucci Tournament Tracker**

4 Championship Game Appearances
3 Tournament Championships
1 Runner Up



**March 2021** 



#### **Marucci Franchise Club Meeting**

RCBC attended the Marucci Franchise Club Summit meeting in Baton Rouge, Louisiana this month. This annual event brings together all of the Franchise Club organizations from around the country to discuss product development and distribution as well as Marucci sponsored events.

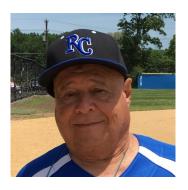
Through this collaboration, Franchise Club members are able to provide input into the design of Marucci's products as the company continues to strive to be the industry leader in all baseball equipment and apparel categories.

We got a sneak peek at many new products including the new line of fielding gloves, batting gloves and batting helmets as well as some new cool color designs for their metal and wood bats. All of these will be available either later this summer or fall. There will also be some new designs available for fan gear as well as an enhanced customization and turnaround process.

"It's always great to see our fellow Franchise Club members in a setting ideal for productivity and comradery" said Coach DeFendis. "We learn a lot about

how other programs
run and how they
incorporate Marucci
branding and
products. We look
forward to seeing
them all again in
July at the Marucci
World Series."





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### Coach Lope's Baseball Thoughts

In This Issue - RCBC Breakthrough

Quote of the Month - From Helen Reddy's song I Am Woman: "I am woman watch me grow, see me standing toe to toe"

RCBC will have TWO WOMEN on a coaching staff this season, for the first time. I originally planned to have a clever lead sentence. I originally planned to write this article with fanfare. I originally was going to make a big deal about it. Then I stopped and said to myself "Mike, grow the heck up. We are in the 21st century. We have a woman a heart beat away from the presidency. We have a woman astronaut. We have women assistant coaches in pro baseball and basketball. We are not dealing with people from Mars. LOL" Therefore, let's talk about them with respect.

We will keep this in perspective. Of course RCBC is proud of seeing women as part of the coaching ranks. And...hopefully it doesn't end this year. Anyway, let's meet the new coaches.

One of our newest head coaches is Brian Graham who starred at New Utrecht High School. Brian is coaching both a 9U and 10U team. And two of his coaches will be his wife Candice and step-daughter Rorie St. Lawrence.

Candice, who will be on the 1st base coaching lines says "Seeing the kids get enjoyment from playing and getting better is a great motivation for me."



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### Coach Lope's Baseball Thoughts

In This Issue - RCBC Breakthrough (Continued)

Brian and Candice have two sons on the teams....Rian-Anthony on the 10U team and the 9U squad will have Kellan-Rhys. Candice also reminds us that "this is the third year I have been coaching, and I'm learning more and more about strategy."

As for Rorie, what a resume. She played soccer at Wagner College where she regularly made the Academic Honor Roll. At Leon Goldstein high school, Ms. St. Lawrence was the PSAL Outstanding Soccer Athlete as well as team MVP. And Rorie also got the league Sportsmanship Plaque. "I will help keep the players in top condition" say Rorie. "I will work on increasing their attention span and won't let them get distracted, especially during practice."

Brian says having women on the staff is helpful. "They see things from a different angle and make me see new ideas. Also, having the two women has become a conversation piece for people who see it for the first time. And our parents really like it."

"Whether it's a gal or guy coaching, young players are young players" says Graham. "They need patience at this age. You hope parents back off as



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## Coach Lope's Baseball Thoughts

In This Issue - RCBC Breakthrough (Continued)

well. Kids are not going to be perfect."

Anyway, the 2021 schedule is underway for the 9U and 10U kids and we look forward to seeing Candice and Rorie in action.



Candice Graham, Brian Graham, Rorie St. Lawrence

#### **Marucci Featured Item**

March Franchise Club Exclusive
2 For \$10 Bat Grips

Marucci bat grips come in .50 mm, 1.00 mm and 1.75 mm thickness as well as a variety of colors and designs.

Put your own personal touch on your Marucci bat.



Order them now before the promotion and supplies end!

For all your equipment needs, visit our Marucci Locker Room online store where RCBC members always get a discount.



#### **Marucci Featured Item**

Josh Donaldson Custom BOR20 11.75 Fielding Glove

Designed by the "Bringer of Rain" from the inside out, the BOR20 is cut to Josh Donaldson's exact specifications for infielders who are quick on their feet.

Recommended for 2nd base, 3rd base or shortstop.





Now on the Marucci Locker Room online store at exclusive RCBC Member pricing.

For all your equipment needs, visit our Marucci Locker Room online store where RCBC members always get a discount.

