



Rookies College Development Coaching staff

Gord Leduchowski – Head Coach

Joining the College Development program will be the most accomplished baseball person ever to play/coach in Manitoba. Rookies is very pleased that someone with as much playing experience has agreed to help aspiring student/athletes obtain their goals.

Gord's playing career began in Manitoba where he played Junior baseball for the Fort Rouge Mallards, before accepting a scholarship to Mayville State University. Gord's Senior baseball career started at an early age and has seen him participate for 22 years for such teams as Teulon, Carmen, McCauley, Binscarth. During that time Gord has represented Manitoba from coast to coast in 11 National Championships. As a catcher and middle infielder Gord played for Team Canada in both 1977 and 1980 participating in World championship tournaments.

After a very distinguished playing career Gord turned his focus to coaching young student/athletes. Gord started with the Western Canadian finalists Interlake Bantam team, and moved on to coach the Teulon Senior team for the next 5 years. Gord has coached the Manitoba Youth Selects, Summer Canada Games, and Western Summer Games for 9 years and was on the coaching staff for Team Canada in Cuba for the World Junior Championships, and for the gold medal winning Canadian Junior team that won the 1991 World Championship tournament in Brandon, Manitoba.

Gord has been a Master Course Conductor for the Manitoba Baseball Association for over 20 years.

Andrew Halpenny – General Manager / Assistant Coach

Andrew began his baseball career in Selkirk, MB playing for long time coach/teacher Al Hares. During that span he competed in 6 Western Canadian and 2 National Championship tournaments. In 1989 participated for Team Manitoba that placed 3rd in the National Youth Select tournament. At the conclusion of the tournament, Andrew received an award as the All-Star catcher for the tournament, and was selected to represent Canada in the World Championships in Trois Rivers, Que. Upon returning home for the winter, Andrew was selected as the Manitoba Baseball Player of the year, the Interlake Athlete of the Year, and was a finalist for the Manitoba Athlete of the Year award. During the 1990 season, Andrew participated for Team Manitoba, and placed 3rd in the Youth Select Tournament, and again was selected to represent Canada at the World Championships in Havana, Cuba. At the conclusion of the tournament, Andrew received a scholarship to the National Baseball Institute in Vancouver, BC. The college baseball season annually concluded with the team playing against the then World Series Champions Toronto Blue Jays. Andrew participated in the Canada Summer games in Kamloops in 1993. Prior to the start of the 1994 season, Andrew signed his first professional contract with the Winnipeg Goldeyes, where he played for three years.

April 17, 1997 Rookies Baseball Experience was established

Andrew is currently the regional scout for the Major League Scouting Bureau.

Darryl Bruce – Pitching coach

Darryl was 1988 Manitoba Player of the Year, and in 1989, Darryl pitched for the Manitoba Youth Team throwing 2 complete game shutouts. He pitched the Bronze Medal game helping Manitoba defeat New Brunswick 1 – 0. Darryl capped off his playing days in Manitoba in 1992 in the Manitoba Junior League. Darryl was the league Most Valuable Player, Most Outstanding pitcher and All-Star Right-Hander. Darryl had a 13 – 0 record with a 0.86 era and 93 strikeouts in 65 innings.

Darryl's college career was spent at Mayville State University from 1990 – 1993. Mayville won Conference and district Championships those years and Darryl was selected to the All-Conference and All-District Team in 1993. He had 8 wins and 1 loss with 4 saves and a 2.62 era. Darryl graduated from Mayville State University, and was recently appointed the Canadian Baseball recruiter for MSU, which takes him across Canada evaluating baseball talent.

Darryl played professionally in the Frontier League in 1993 with the Western Division Champions – Ohio Valley Redcoats. In 1994 played in the North Central League, where he started the season as a mid-reliever but moved to the closer position. He finished the season with a 4 – 2 record and recorded 9 saves. He posted a 2.83 era with 37 appearances. An injury ended his career in 1995 while pitching in his third professional season in the Prairie League.

Darryl was the pitching coach for Team Manitoba from 1997 – 2000. He coached Carillon AAA Bantam in 2001 and the team went on to win the Silver Medal at the Canadian National Bantam Championships. He was awarded the Manitoba Baseball Association's High performance Coach of the Year. Darryl is presently a recommending scout for the Cincinnati Reds.