

Midget Boys Finish Fifth at National Championship Tournament

The Orleans Rebels Midget Boys' Fastball Team returned home on August 14, 2006 from the National Midget Fastpitch Tournament, held in Prince Albert, SK, from August 6 to 13, 2006, with a fifth place finish.

The team went four and four through the preliminary round, finishing sixth out of the twelve teams participating. Victories came at the hands and bats of the Quebec All-star team, Sooke, BC, the host team, and Selkirk, ON. Losses came against the Port Alberni, BC, Blazers (eventual silver medalists), the Napanee Express (fourth place finishers), the Scarborough Royals (sixth place finishers) and the Calgary Cowboys (did not make the championship round).

Matt Bowman, Rebels catcher, was named to the tournament all-star team based on his offensive and defensive skills in the preliminary round.

In the championship round, the Rebels went 1-1 with another win over the host team and a second loss to Port Alberni, who were a BC all-star team, with three players having played with the Canadian Junior Fastball Team. One of each of those three players was a tournament MVP - pitcher, batter, and overall tournament MVP.

The facilities in Prince Albert, SK, were top notch and the genuine "western" hospitality was an experience to behold. The memories of participating at a national tournament and the satisfaction of their success will be a lasting memory for most of the Rebel players who complete their minor competitive fastball careers as midgets.