



# *2016 Prairie Baseball Academy*



## *Recruiting Information Package*



*The Prairie Baseball Academy founded in 1995 has been a top caliber Canadian college baseball program in Alberta for over 20 years. The Prairie Baseball Academy program has provided a platform for young student athletes across Canada to pursue their baseball dream while acquiring a post-secondary education. With over 700 PBA Alumni spread across the country the support for this program has never been stronger. We look forward to seeing you this fall!*

## *Prairie Baseball Academy New Recruit Information*

### **About our program:**

The Prairie Baseball Academy was founded in 1995 as a program designed to help young athletes in Canada pursue post-secondary education while continuing their baseball careers. To date the Prairie Baseball Academy has over 700 alumni spread across Canada from coast to coast. Over 130 players have gone onto four-year schools in the United States and close to 30 PBA alumni have played professional baseball after their time in the program.



***Lethbridge College Campus***

As a potential player in this program it is important that you and your family evaluate the options you have in Lethbridge. The academic standards of both post-secondary institutions in Lethbridge are phenomenal.

The University of Lethbridge sits on the west side of town, and has a beautiful campus that overlooks the Coulees. Lethbridge College is on the south side of town and boasts strong academic standards with numerous programs and courses that transfer to most United States post secondary institutions. Advisors from both institutions are in place to guide new students through what will be an eye opening experience in their first year at university.

As a prospective student athlete at the Prairie Baseball Academy there are a few things you need to know. The first thing that is absolutely imperative is that all new players are coming to the Prairie Baseball Academy to further their education. Although the PBA has been established, as a program that provides the opportunity to play baseball at a high level it must be understood the tremendous sacrifice it will take to be successful here. **Education must come first.** The reality is that you must be successful in the classroom in order to be able to play college baseball.



***University of Lethbridge Campus***



***Lloyd Nolan Yard***

We are very proud of our baseball facilities. Lloyd Nolan Yard is the home of the Prairie Baseball Academy. Lloyd Nolan has a beautiful playing surface that is maintained by the players throughout the year. Inside, upstairs, there is a baseball space with turf and two full-length cages that pull out. Downstairs there is another bullpen pitching lane with three full clay mounds. Also downstairs there is a weight room and a locker room for both the Varsity and Junior Varsity players. Along with our facilities we have a tremendous spring schedule where the Varsity team competes against some of the top Junior College's in the U.S. Each spring the Varsity team heads to Las Vegas to start the season in the College of Southern Nevada's Icebreaker tournament. The ten-day trip to Vegas during spring break is always a memorable trip for PBA players.

If you are looking for any more information or have questions or concerns about the Prairie Baseball Academy feel free to contact us at [pba@telusplanet.net](mailto:pba@telusplanet.net) or at 403-320-1302. You can also check out our website [www.prairiebaseball.ca](http://www.prairiebaseball.ca) to get up to date information on the Prairie Baseball Academy.

**Once a player has chosen to attend the Prairie Baseball Academy they will need to know the following information:**

The coaching staff at the Prairie Baseball Academy is confident that the experience you will receive at PBA will be a tremendous one if you come prepared to work hard on and off the field. This program will teach you not only baseball skills, but life skills such as: hard work, commitment, self-discipline, teamwork and loyalty. Each fall the program starts fresh and each new group of players becomes a family. Some of the friendships and connections you will make at PBA will last a lifetime.

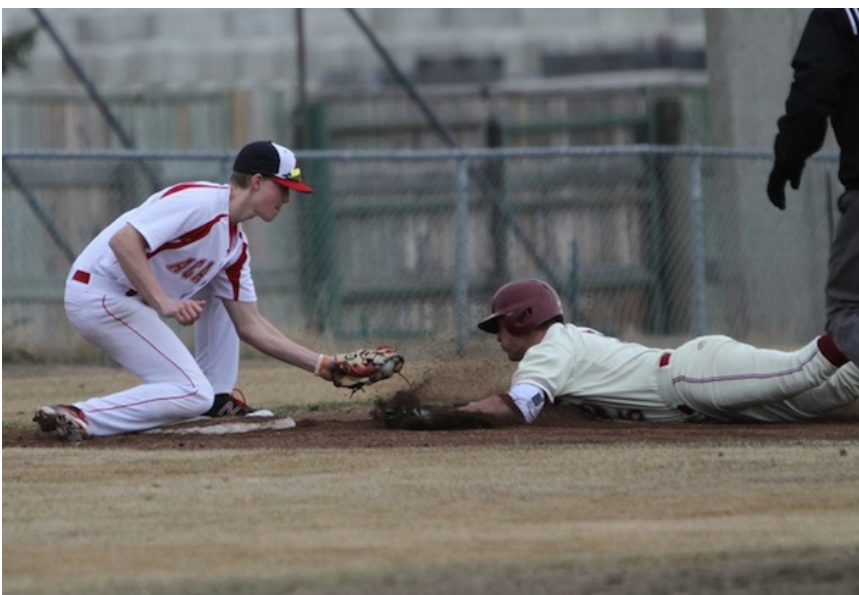
When enrolling in school for the fall semester we try to have our players arrange their schedules to be done by 3:00pm. This is not always possible depending on which program you are in, and the coaching staff will work with the player if there are issues. That being said we like to practice as early as possible in the fall as the days become shorter the window for practice time shrinks. In the fall we practice approximately 3 Hrs. per day and we will play 12 to 20 games during the fall season with not many weekends off. The fall wraps up with the annual 100-inning Marathon Game around Halloween each year.

There will be a short break at the end of October, which will be followed by an extensive conditioning program. Each player will be expected to attend every workout session up to an hour and a half hour per-day until the Christmas break. Following the fall season the Prairie Baseball Academy starts up a Winter Elite Camp for local youth players. The PBA Winter Elite Camp has become one of the best camp programs in Alberta. The camp runs five nights per week with sessions for player's ages 7-18. Academy players are asked to volunteer their time one night every week to help develop youth baseball in Lethbridge and surrounding communities. The campers love being able to interact and learn from the players and coaches in the program.



**2016 PBA Spring Training Camp**

Before the players go home at Christmas time each athlete will sit in a one on one meeting with the coaching staff where that player's position in the program will be discussed. Players will be split into the Varsity and Junior Varsity teams. The top 25 players in the program will make up the Varsity team, and the next 20-25 players will make up the Junior Varsity team. Junior Varsity players are guys that may need to sharpen up their skills in a few different areas before making the jump to the Varsity level. Some of the top players to ever make their way through this program started with a year in the Junior Varsity program. The Varsity team starts their spring schedule in mid to late February, and the Junior Varsity starts in March. The Prairie Baseball Academy Varsity team plays in the Canadian Collegiate Baseball Conference and PBA has won the CCBC Championship 5 consecutive years dating back to 2011. The hard work instilled into our players from day one is a testament to the success this program has had on the field in recent years.



The coaching staff looks forward to seeing all of the fresh young faces next fall ready to dedicate themselves to being successful in the next chapter of their lives.

Sincerely,

Todd Hubka – Varsity Head Coach

Ryan MacDonald – Varsity Assistant Coach

Jesse Sawyer – Junior Varsity Head Coach

Shayne McInnis – Junior Varsity Assistant Coach