

Junior National Team (U18) Information

The Junior National Team is made up of the best high school aged (18 and under) baseball players in Canada. In 1999 the program moved to a 'year-round' format consisting of 3-4 annual trips and either a World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) U-18 Baseball World Cup or a WBSC Americas U-18 Baseball World Cup Qualifier. These two events occur in alternating years.

The Junior National Team season begins each year with the Fall Instructional League program and continues in the spring with camps in Florida (extended spring training) and the Dominican Republic (Dominican Summer League). Typically, these camps span 10-12 days in length with the format emulating a professional baseball environment.

The camps serve as player evaluation opportunities for Junior National Team coaches along with the scouting communities from Major League Baseball (MLB) along with major College and University programs from the United States and Canada.

Athlete selection process takes place throughout the year at the Baseball Canada Cup (or Canada Games every four years), Toronto Blue Jays Academy Showcase, and other identification events across the country.

*Age eligibility for the Junior National Team states that players must not be older than 18 years of age on December 31st of each calendar year.

JNT Alumni

The Junior National Team program has produced many players that have gone on to professional baseball, college baseball and players who have represented Canada at the World Baseball Classic, Olympics and other international baseball events. Some of these players include 1997 National League MVP Larry Walker, 2006 American League MVP Justin Morneau, 2004 National League Rookie of the Year Jason Bay, MLB All Stars Russell Martin and Mike Soroka, 2002 4th overall pick Adam Loewen, retired pitchers Ryan Dempster and Jeff Francis along with current and former pros Phillippe Aumont, John Axford, Jim Henderson, Édouard Julien, Brett Lawrie, Charles Leblanc, Bo Naylor, Josh Naylor, Tyler O'Neill, James Paxton, Nick Pivetta, Jordan Romano, Michael Saunders, Cal Quantrill and Rowan Wick.