

2010 NECBL Sportsmanship Award Ballot

Teams please vote for one of the nominees NOT on your team.

Umpires please vote for one of the nominees.

Please email your choices to richros@optonline.net



Jantzen Witte SS/2B #32 • Vermont Mountaineers • Texas Christian

The Vermont Mountaineers for the second consecutive year would like to nominate Jantzen Witte for the NECBL Sportsmanship Award. Jantzen has been a great team leader the last two seasons and always plays the game hard while adding having fun and keeping his teammates loose in the dugout. When Texas Christian University advanced so far in the World Series, we really missed Jantzen's leadership. He is always respectful to umpires, teammates and fans and is a great role model for his host families year old son. He contributes to make the community a better place for the youth who attend our summer camps. I received this email from a parent who had a child attend camp and have added that below, since I couldn't say it any better myself!

“Although everyone I saw was doing a very good job with the kids, #32, Jantzen Witte was truly outstanding. He was the coach of my son’s team, the “Cobras.” I don’t know what his plans are for the future in addition to baseball, but please let him know that from a parent’s perspective, he would make an outstanding coach, teacher, etc... anything working with kids. He was a great motivator, took time to help all kids and displayed understanding and was able to redirect kids who needed help. And, he did all of this with a great sense of humor and enthusiasm. When my son was upset, Jantzen talked him through it and got him refocused on the game. I was very impressed and thankful that Ronald had the chance to be with Jantzen and the other players this past week. And, the game they played at the end was the best, most fun kid’s baseball game I have ever seen. Parents and kids alike were happy, engaged and I think I will remember it for a very long time. It was a blast!”



Luke Farrell RHP #23 • New Bedford Bay Sox • Northwestern

New Bedford would like to nominate Luke Farrell. Luke has been a joy to have on the team. He is one of the most respectful players we have ever had. He has been great in the community. He went out of his way to make sure a boy in the hospital was able to get an autographed bat from his favorite Red Sox player. Luke is always positive and the first to pick up a teammate when they are down.



Matt Miller OF #20 • Lowell All-Americans • Northeastern

Lowell would like to nominate Matt Miller. Matt has started every game for the All-Americans playing games in right, center, and first. As Lowell's lead off man, Matt sets the table for the rest of the team and also sets an example as a returning player. Matt is looked up to by the other player as being a hard worker on and off the field.



Tucker Nathans 2B #2 • Danbury Westerners • Fairfield University

The Danbury Westerners nominate Tucker Nathans for the NECBL Sportsmanship of the Year Award. This rising senior second baseman at Fairfield University is the quintessential scholar athlete. Tucker's work ethic is second to none on the team; he is the first player at the field and very often the last to leave. His excellent performance with the bat AND glove is due to his tireless repetitions on the practice field. Tucker loves the game and his constant hustle is always accompanied with a smile. Tucker shows respect to his coaches, teammates and opponents; he goes out of his way to make the fans, especially the youth baseball players, visit to the ballpark a truly memorable experience.

(Coach's perspective) Tucker is an amazing kid!!! He spends so much time with his host family's son and includes him in everything. Also on a day off Tucker went to breakfast with Coach Deering and even went to the field to hit in the cage with Coach! May I remind you, on a DAY OFF after the greuling recent road trip!! There is no player more deserving in my opinion!!

Tucker Nathans would represent the NECBL very well as the winner of the 2010 Sportsmanship of the Year Award.



Scott Firth RHP #2 • Keene Swamp Bats • Clemson University

No information given.



Dustin Ramey RHP #10 • Sanford Mainers • UMass Lowell

Sanford is proud to nominate DUSTIN RAMEY, UMass Lowell, RH pitcher for the Sportsmanship award. He is in his second year with the Mainers, and was the East starter in the 2010 All Star Game in Newport. He is the consummate gentleman who consistently puts the team before himself. He is a fan favorite who signs every child's autograph, hugs every grandma and shakes every hand. On the field he is the ultimate professional who has dedicated himself to ethical excellence. He is controlled and respectful while still being tenacious and competitive. Dustin is our choice of Sportsman of the Year.



David Bentrott SS #1 • Newport Gulls • University of Washington

On behalf of the Newport Gulls, I would like to nominate David Bentrott for the 2010 Sportsmanship Award. This nomination is the culmination of two years as a member of the Newport Gulls. Last year David had to deal with some personal issues related to his parent's divorce. Through the summer he struggled with his focus but through hard work he emerged as the catalyst and sparkplug for his championship team. This year he came in as the veteran Gull, but had to be patient for playing time and remained a great team guy while his role was limited to a rotating schedule. David never complained, was always early for pre-game and did whatever the staff asked him to do. Even when he wasn't in the line-up, he was running on and off the field during pre-game infield/outfield, always encouraging his teammates. However, what really stands out about his sportsmanship, we have had three instances this year when it was his turn to play and knowing that another player had their parents or coach in the stands, he approached Coach Coombs and said, "He has family here tonight Coach, he should play and I will wait my turn to start again another night." This kind of sacrifice is unheard of in summer baseball, but David understands the importance of "sportsmanship." His unselfishness is an example for his teammates to follow and for all of us to learn from, he taught me something about true "sportsmanship!"



Casey Kalenkosky 1B #11 • Laconia Muskrats • Cisco College

The Laconia Muskrats would like to nominate Casey Kalenkosky for the 2010 Sportsmanship Award.

It was a joy and an honor to have Casey wear a Muskrats uniform in this our inaugural season. He was an NECBL All Star and RBI leader but you would never know that by talking with him. I have never met a player with so much talent who worked as hard or displayed so much humility. He never missed a session of early hitting, tarp pulling, or a team function. He never grouched about having to catch bullpens while playing in the game as a DH. He was respectful on the field and in the community. He is a young man with a maturity beyond his 20 years. He was a consummate teammate and competitor. He is truly deserving of this award.



Dylan Hochevar RHP #33 • No Shore Navigators • U of Tennessee

No information given.