

## 10U Rawlings Jr. Propsects - Ready to Step Up in 2011

- By Ernie Rapiere

The 2011 edition of the 10U Rawlings Jr. Propsects of St. Louis, Missouri is an excellent team that has a lot of upside as its players continue to grow and mature. This team is clearly benefiting from its outstanding coaching staff lead by Monte Krogman who pitched in the NY Mets Organization. Monte is assisted by coaches who each have accomplished baseball backgrounds. Tom Fogarty played as an outfielder at Miami of Ohio, Mark Christman grew up around baseball as his father played over 12 years in the MLB. And Bill Turnbaugh was an outstanding player growing up and all during high school.



The Jr. Propsects are coming off a successful 2010 year as 9U's. They compiled an overall record of 48-17 during which they got a thorough orientation while competing against 10U teams. In fact, 11 of their 17 losses were sustained against 10u major teams. This experience helped them become more dominate when playing teams within their own age group. They gave up on 6 losses to quality 9U teams. During their 2010 season, they won 1 Super Series title plus 3 USSSA titles including the Missouri USSSA Major State Championship. They were also the Runner-Up in several USSSA tournaments. But no tournament was bigger than their finishing as the Runner-up at the 9U Major USSSA World Series that was held in St. Louis.

Thus far this season, the Jr. Propsects have not yet opened their 2011 campaign due to weather considerations, but have been busy working both inside/outside so that they may return bigger, stronger, and much better. The Jr. Propsects coaches have all of these young athletes very passionate about the game of baseball.

To achieve the records that Rawlings Jr. Prospects has accomplished, a team has to have a strong squad of Athletes from top to bottom – and certainly that is the case for this team. The Jr. Prospects are returning 8 players from last year’s team and have added 3X new players to round out their 11 man squad. Following is a quick look at their 2011 Roster in order of each player’s jersey number:

#3 - Sam Hurayt, R/R, (3B, P, OF) – is a strong athlete with tons of potential. Sam hits for power and has shown improvement year after year at the plate and on the mound. He also possesses a very strong arm. His fastball clocks around 60MPH, backed with a solid change-up.



#4 - Tyler Fogarty (pictured left), R/R, (2B, OF) – Tyler is one of the fastest 10u baseball players in the Midwest or South. Tyler has excellent range at 2<sup>nd</sup> base & OF. Tyler led the team in most hitting categories. Fastball contact/power hitter. We have yet to see anyone able to sneak a fastball by him. Tyler will also challenge pitchers on the base paths with his speed and quickness.

#7 - Cole Christman, R/R, (OF, C, P) – Cole is a strong athlete who possesses a very strong arm. He makes great throws from the outfield down to 2<sup>nd</sup> base and has lightning quick hands at the plate. He is also one of their strongest outfielders, whose excellent speed enables him

to tracks the ball very well.

#12 - John Stallcup, R/R, C, P, 1<sup>st</sup> – is a savvy and focused baseball player who hits for both contact and power. As a pitcher, he has nice command of his fastball. Coach Krogman describes him as the best blocking catcher he has seen at this level. When you consider his combined skills both on the mound and behind the plate, he will rival any player that you’ll see in the Midwest or South.

#13 - Collin Turnbeaugh (pictured right), R/R, (SS, P) – is one of the strongest SS in the Midwest. Has range & consistency at SS of a kid 3-4 yrs older. He pitches with excellent control and he backs his pitches with an outstanding change up. Collin is the type of athlete that coaches can always count on to show up to play.



#22 - Ben Watson, R/R, (OF, P, C) – is a strong athlete and focused baseball player. He is a contact line drive hitter. As a pitcher, he has great command of his fastball that has above average speed. His excellent control helps him follow-up his speed pitches with natural cutters that baffles many hitters.



#24 - Chase Krogman (pictured left), L/L, (CF, LHP, 1B) – is an outstanding center fielder that is one of the best in the Midwest and South. His speed enables him to be a solid base runner and also chase down deep fly balls. He has a strong and accurate arm and can throw players out on a line from deep centerfield. He is a fast ball, line drive hitter with a nice hint of power. On the mound, his fastball clocks near 60 mph.

#32 - Mark Shallenberger, L/L, (1B, P, OF) – is a savvy and focused baseball player who hits for both contact and for power. He brings an excellent glove at first and is also a very solid outfielder. When on the mound, Mark throws his fastball with good speed that is well above average, and he backs it with such off speed command that is baffling to most hitters.

Mark is a tenacious competitor that won't back down. He's the type of player you want to have in the game during clutch situations.

#### **NEW PLAYERS:**

#2 - Kyren Williams, #R/R, C, 2<sup>nd</sup>, OF – Strong athlete with tons of raw talent. Kyren hits for power with lightning quick hands, strong throwing arm & range. Foot speed will rival anyone in the country. Very energetic player/athlete that has substantial upside.

#18 - Nick Lang, R/R, 3<sup>rd</sup>, P, OF – is a strong and focused athlete. Nick is a contact line drive hitter that shows hints of power. Excellent hands in the field with an above average arm. Nick has good command of fastball with substantial upside on the mound.

#### **RESERVE:**

#1 - Jonah McDowell, L/R, P, OF – is a strong and focused athlete. Jonah hits for contact and power. He has a very fluid throwing motion on the mound coupled with great command of his fastball and change-up. His fastball will clock close to 60MPH. This athlete has Tons of upside on the mound!

During 2011, Rawlings Jr. Prospects plan to play in the following key events; Southaven Super NIT in May, Major MO state championships (Kansas City) in June, AAYBA World Series in July(St. Louis). They are also planning to compete in the most competitive 11u select leagues in St. Louis and Chesterfield, Missouri areas, as well as, 8 major USSSA tournaments in addition to the one's listed above. They are also considering travel to the Orlando USSSA World Series.