



## James River Snappers

**Introduction:** The James River Snappers are part of the Commonwealth Collegiate Baseball League. Summer collegiate leagues throughout the United States give college baseball players the opportunity to continue playing during the summer and show their skills to MLB and other professional baseball scouts who visit summer collegiate leagues regularly.

**Who is a Snapper?** Snapper teammates are college baseball players recruited from colleges and universities around the country. Many of these young men strive to play in minor and major professional baseball leagues in the future. Many college baseball players are recruited to professional leagues during the summer collegiate baseball season. Players' academic majors can range from business, finance, mathematics, social studies, psychology, sports physical therapy, law, marketing, law enforcement, accounting to computer systems.

**Why Host a James River Snappers Player?** There are many reasons to host a player. If you love baseball or sports in general or want to make a difference in the lives of our youth and leave a lasting impression, you should find a good reason here:

1. Free home game season passes for you and your family.
2. Summer collegiate baseball players do not have the financing that professional baseball players have to stay in hotels. It is difficult to work during the summer when a player is committed to a summer collegiate baseball league program schedule especially in an area that is not their hometown. All CLL teams play 6 games a week with one day off, which is often used for rain date makeup games.
3. It's fun to watch the progress and growth of a minor league player you hosted in your home and grew to know and admire. We call it "boasting rights."
4. Your children and/or grandchildren will enjoy camaraderie with players.
5. You will make new friends with other baseball enthusiasts and see some current friends at the games as well.
6. You will have the opportunity to make a positive impact on a young person who is just starting out in life.
7. Many players you have hosted continue to keep in touch for years.

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**What Do You Do To Host A Snapper?** Players need only a bed (not necessarily a bedroom) in your home or basement, access to a bathroom with bathing/shower facilities and access to laundry facilities (they wash their own clothing and linens). Although providing food to the players is not required, we ask our host families to provide meals as you are able, most especially with your family. When away from your home, players pay for their own food. When home, many players prefer frozen/packageged food they can pop into the microwave; however, this is your discretion. Access to television hookup and computer hook up is a convenience but certainly not required. If you will be out of town for a weekend or several weeks during June and July, our Host Family Coordinator will remove your player from your home and resettle him while you are away.

**How long is the Season?** Players arrive at Dave Cottrell field the last weekend in May. We ask one member of the Host Family to meet their player at the field that day. Players begin practice the first week of June. There first official game is the first Friday in June with the season ending the last week of July. If the Snappers proceed to the CLL playoff series, the season could extend beyond the first week in August.

Six games a week are played with Sunday's off. There are 22 home and 22 away games. You are not required to attend games; however, the players look forward to their Host Families cheering them on.

The "Adopt a Snapper" program is one of the most important functions of the James River Snappers team. It is, in fact, the foundation of our program. Good guest-host relationships are a top priority.

If we satisfy our mission, lifelong relationships will be created which would serve as lasting mementos for the player and the host family.

If you wish to learn more about Adopting A Snapper for the upcoming season, our Host Family Coordinator, Lisa Germano, will be happy to answer any questions regarding hosting a Snapper. E-mail Lisa at: [RBIbaseballonline@gmail.com](mailto:RBIbaseballonline@gmail.com)

It will be a pleasure to have you join the James River Snappers baseball family!

Austin McGowan, Head Coach