

The 11-12 All Star team had a great time and proved to be the special group of ball players that we thought they were. The team went through District Pool Play with a 3-1 record, outscoring their opponents by a combined 39 - 18. The reward for our efforts was a #2 seed in the Tournament Round, which pitted us against Horizon Little League in the quarter finals. Our boys won the game 3-2, thanks in part to a game-saving play in center field by Josh Bristyan, who reached over the fence to take a home run away from a Horizon hitter. The semi-final game was a slugfest against Shadow Mountain which ended in a 15-12 victory. Jagger Everett, Cole Finocchiaro, George Jennings, and Dalton Sneed were a combined 8 for 12, contributing to 11 of the 15 runs. The championship game against Diamondback was never in question, as the boys came out strong and never let up. Matt Kroon pitched 4.2 innings of 4-hit, 1-run ball, and Jacob Shore recorded the last four outs in order for a 6-1 win, and the District 3 Championship!!

At the State Tournament, the team went through Pool Play with a 4-2 record, and received a #3 seed. Michael White (2 wins, 17 Ks, 9 hits), Matt Thomas (1 win, 7 Ks, 5 hits), and Matt Hess (1 win, 8 Ks, 6 hits) provided superb pitching, allowing only 8 runs in the four victories. In the San Manuel game, the team needed some clutch hitting, and got it from Cory Kehoe, Brett Bishop, and Alex Reader, whose three hits contributed to all three of the team's runs. The final score: 3-1. Unfortunately, being the #3 seed pitted us against Chandler National in the Tournament Round. The team could not overcome their opponents (or the heat), and All-Star season came to an end. Ultimately, the State Title went to Arrowhead, a team that beat us by one run in Pool Play. They beat all their opponents in the Tournament Round by 10 runs or more.

Championships like this always require a team effort, and everyone contributed. We had pitching, hitting, defense, and most importantly, team chemistry. We had great support from our coaches and parents (and brothers and sisters, too). The 11-12 All-Stars ended their post-season with a 10-4 record, a District 3 Championship, and lots of great memories.



Back row from the left: Kevin Thomas (Coach), Steve Hess (Coach), Matt Hess, Jagger Everett, Cole Finocchiaro, Michael White, Matt Kroon, Jacob Shore, Howard Shore (Manager), Dalton Sneed

Front row from left: Cory Kehoe, Matt Thomas, Alex Reader, Josh Bristyan, George Jennings, Brett Bishop