

Meet the instructors:

Coach Richard Bielski

Coach Bielski is presently the Head Varsity Baseball Coach at Archbishop McCarthy High School, a coaching staff that also includes Alex Fernandez, Nelson Santovenia, Ric Butner and Cookie Abay. In his first year as Head Coach of the Mavericks, Bielski led the 2009 club to a new school record for wins with a 25-5 record, propelling the team to the first FHSAA State Championship's Final Four appearance in the school's history. The 2009 team also broke the school record for homeruns and no-hitters thrown in one season. In 2010, Bielski led the Maverick's to capture the **first State Championship in the history of the school** with a 27-5 record and a top 10 National Ranking. Bielski was named Coach of the Year by many organizations including the Sun Sentinel, Diamond, and the Florida Dairy Farmers. SS/3B Nick Castellanos was drafted in the first round by the Detroit Tigers. In the last 2 years his seniors have been awarded scholarships to the University of Miami, Florida State, F.I.U., University of South Florida, Palm Beach Atlantic and many others.

As 10-year Head Coach of the Hialeah High Baseball team, Coach Bielski has helped mold the T-Breds into one of the most successful baseball programs in the state of Florida. With Bielski as head coach, the Hialeah T-Breds captured 2 state championships, 2 regional titles and 7 district titles. The 2001 and 2002 state baseball titles were the first in recent memory, the first dating back 32 years ago to 1969. In 1993 and 2002, Bielski was named "Coach of the Year" by his fellow Miami-Dade Coaches and coached the high school state all-star team – South Squad in Sebring Florida. In 2001, Coach Bielski was named the high school "Coach-of-the-Year" for ALL male sports in Miami-Dade County by the Miami Herald. In ten years as the Hialeah High Head coach, Coach Bielski tallied a 220-86 (.719) overall mark, averaging 22 wins per year. His 2001 state championship team set a school record for wins with 27. As a player, Coach Bielski was drafted by the Milwaukee Brewers and then the New York Yankees while playing at Miami Dade North Community College. He also played in the NCAA Division 1 College World Series with the University of Georgia where his name still appears on the homerun record list. Coach Bielski also played in the prestigious Cape Cod Summer Collegiate League and minor league professional baseball with the Salt Lake City Trappers.

Coach Bielski is in his 22nd year of teaching high school, has a B.S.Ed. in Mathematics, a M.S. in Computer Education, and is Certified in Guidance and Counseling for grades K-12. He was also named "Teacher of the Year" at Hialeah High for the 2001-2002 school year. Coach Bielski stresses the importance of leadership, respect, strong academics and proper conduct. His goal is to help produce young men who are self-confident achievers who desire to better themselves through baseball and a post-secondary education. Players who accomplish this goal will become assets to society, their community as well as a success story for their families.

Coach Ric Butner

Coach Butner is now in his third year guiding the Maverick's pitching staff. The 2009 staff set school records in wins, no-hitters and strikeouts. The 2010 was no exception, recording the most wins in school history along with its first ever state championship. Not thinking it was possible, the staff lowered its E.R.A, it's batting average against and shut outs and improved its strike outs all the while competing against 11 Nationally ranked teams, defeating 8 of them, including two #1 teams in the nation. Under Coach Butner's tutelage, two pitchers have earned First Team All Broward County selections on his staff.

Coach Butner is currently in his 33rd year as a coach and teacher, and is currently an administrator in the Miami Dade County Public School system. He is a former All-American performer that led his team to three consecutive state appearances at Parkland High School, in North Carolina. Coach Butner played college ball at Anderson College in South Carolina for two years before transferring to the University of South Florida. Although Coach Butner was drafted as a pitcher by the Kansas City Royals, he followed his desire to become a professional basketball player instead. For 7 years, Coach Butner coached select-travel baseball teams ranging in ages from 9 to 18 years old. His teams competed in local, state, national, and international tournaments. Among these teams were the Broward Diamonds and the Plantation Stars. For four years, Coach Butner worked with the very successful Hialeah High School program, three years as their pitching coach. Coach Butner is very proud of the fact that under his tutelage, Hialeah was one of only two high schools nationally to have three pitchers drafted in the 2006 Major League Baseball draft, his son being one of them.

Coach Butner's private and group instruction keeps him busy when the Mavericks are not in season. Coach Butner is proud to profess that every player that has ever played for him, that had a desire to play high school ball, has in fact played, or is currently playing for their high school team.

Coach Jose Fernandez

Coach Fernandez is presently the Head Coach at Barbara Goleman High School and has been coaching and teaching in Miami-Dade County for 29 years. Since Coach Fernandez' arrival, the Gators have recently captured three 6A district championships. Previously, Coach Fernandez was an assistant coach at Flanagan High School from 1999-2002 where he helped lead the 2002 Falcons to the 6A Regional Finals reaching the state final eight. With the Falcons, his responsibilities included coaching the outfielders and serving as the Falcon's third base coach. He was also in charge of the Falcon summer baseball program from 2000-2002. Coach Fernandez was the Head Coach of the Miami Carol City Chiefs Baseball Program for seven years from 1983-1989. In 1988 he coached the high school state all-star team – South Squad in Haines City, Florida. In 2009, he was selected coach of the year and once again coached the south squad at Sebring.

As a player, Coach Fernandez was selected as a member of the 1979 USA Pan American team. He was also named to the South Regional 1st team in 1978 and 1979 while at Florida International University, where he posted two seasons of hitting over .350, while leading the NCAA in triples. Coach Fernandez in his high school days was a member of the 1975 State Champion Baseball team at Miami Carol City High School.