

Josh Kubitschek

St. Paul Capitals

2014 MVP

Class A

In his own words: In 2014, we played St. Paul Roosters first, which was a team I hadn't seen before. I know we were hitting the ball that day (Capitals 13, Roosters 0). I think it was like 8-0 or so after the fourth or fifth inning, which makes it a lot easier on me. Then we just kept piling it on. That's what the state tournament is all about, who's hitting well at the end of the season, playoffs and into state. I only gave up two hits and a walk and eight or nine strikeouts. If you're not putting up ten runs a game in the state, you don't have a very good chance of winning because these teams will put up a crooked number on you pretty quick.

The second game we played St. Louis Park. That game was just a massacre. Everything went our way at the plate. We capitalized on some significant errors. We kept putting the ball in play and they weren't making the plays and we took full advantage of it and got out of there in seven innings (Capitals 20, Park 3). We played strong defense which makes it a lot easier. I remember Logan Busch went six-for-six that game with three doubles, three singles and five RBI.

So we played Minnetonka to go to the state tournament. Every time you play Minnetonka you know what to expect. They're not just going to lay over and give you the game. Those guys can hit, they are patient at the plate, they know what they are doing with good approaches. So I just tried to pitch them backwards on what I had seen in the past. Took it inning by inning and pitch by pitch. We won that game 6-2. If you can get six runs off Minnetonka and you can hold them to only a couple, that's a good thing. I think that was the game that Ryan Abrahamson hit two home runs. Timely hitting was everything for us that game. I think I threw all nine and only gave up the two runs. It was a battle. Those guys fought hard. I probably threw 175 pitches or so. I love playing them. They are a good group of guys, fun and basically professionals out there. All of them played college or pro so they've been around.

The final was also against Minnetonka. That took something like two and a half days to finish that game. It started at 1:00 pm on Sunday and didn't end until like 7:00 pm on Tuesday (Capitals 5, Minnetonka 4, 13 innings). There were a couple of rain delays, which made it even more nerve-racking because you never know what they are going to bring back after they've had a couple of extra days to rest. Maybe get a pitcher back that they needed or a player is back in town. Tommy Peterson hit the walkoff hit to bring in Logan Busch. Luckily, we had our top guys there so it was fun. I had come in the last two-thirds of an inning to get us out of a jam in the final. That was my first year with the Capitals so we meshed right away and here it is eight or nine years later and still going with the same guys. Trying to make a repeat performance of 2014. Seems like a lifetime ago.



- Josh Kubitschek, St. Paul Capitals, 2014
- Pitcher
- Won two games and saved one
- Pitched 16.2 innings
- Pasted a 1.11 ERA for the tournament
- Struck out 17



I came into the state tournament like 11-0 and I ended up being 13-0 with 110 strike outs in 84 innings."

