

CWSF 2012 - Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island



Bryant Schroeder

Differentiating the Potential for Injury between Hardball and Softball

Challenge: Discovery

Category: Junior

Region: Chinook Country

City: Priddis, AB

School: Red Deer Lake School

Abstract: With the increased awareness of the need to protect athletes from harm, the experiment's intent was to discover the risk of injury between the games of softball versus hardball. A ball of each type was fired with equal force at sheets of foam and indentation was measured. The results were significantly different, revealing that a softball has potential to cause more damage.

Biography

I am Bryant Schroeder, fourteen years old. I live in the foothills west of Priddis. I attend the grade eight class at Red Deer Lake School near Calgary, Alberta. I'm involved in many extra-curricular activities including sports like volleyball and badminton, and the Drama production at RDL. Our school's mascot is the dragon who embodies the virtues of pride, excellence, and success. I was awarded the Outstanding Student Award last year for attaining the highest overall mark in my grade. I intend to pursue a post-secondary education but I don't know what field yet. When I was throwing a softball around with my father my hand started getting sore from poor catches. I began to wonder how the heavier and larger softball could possibly be safer than a baseball. So, I looked into the topic and found that many people, including young, actually died from being struck with a baseball and my science fair project evolved from there. I don't plan to investigate this topic further than I already have, but I may do the fair again. My number one advice to a student for the fair is to get a good topic, then a head start.

Awards

Value

Excellence Award - Junior - Silver Medal Sponsor: Youth Science Canada	\$700
Western University Scholarship Silver Medallist - \$2000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: Western University	\$2 000
Total	\$2 700