

Ron Buckler—Professional Biography

Played competitive Fastball from 1955-1987

Position: Pitcher 6'2"—220 lbs (1985 stats)

1955: Turned 17 years old. Started playing for Red Lake Fastball Team.

1956: Pitched for the Red Lake Fastball Team.

Won the **Red Lake District Fastball League Championship.**

Red Lake All Stars won Consolation prize at the **Winnipeg Tournament.**

1957: Pitched for the Red Lake Fastball Team.

Won the **Red Lake District Fastball League Championship.** Out-of-town teams included three

Teams from Winnipeg, one from Fort Frances, one from Atikokan, and one from Red Rock.

Red Lake All Stars won the Consolation prize at the **Winnipeg Tournament.** Ron pitched 29 innings in one day.

1958: Pitched for the Red Lake Fastball Team.

Won the **Red Lake District Fastball League Championship.** Two out-of-town teams, both from Winnipeg, played in the tournament.

Red Lake All Stars won the **Winnipeg Championship.**

1959: Pitched for the Red Lake Fastball Team.

Won the **Red Lake District Fastball League Championship.** Red Lake All Stars played in the Minot, North Dakota Tournament.

1960: Pitched for the Red Lake Fastball Team.

Won the **Red Lake District Fastball League Championship.** Red Lake All Star Team played in the Minot, North Dakota Tournament.

1961: Moved to Balmertown and started working at Campbell Mine. Joined the Campbell Mine Fastball Team. Won the **Red Lake District Fastball League Championship.**

1962: Won the **Red Lake District Fastball League Championship.** Won the **Minot, North Dakota Tournament.** Pitched a no hitter. Won B-Side at the **Winnipeg Tournament.** Pitched 29 innings in 1 day.

1963: Played for Campbell Mine Fastball Team.

Won the **Red Lake District Fastball League Championship.**

Red Lake All Stars won the **Fort William Tournament.**

Ron pitched all four games recording 55 strikeouts.

Red Lake All Stars won the **Winnipeg Tournament.**

1964: Played for Campbell Mine Fastball Team. Won the **Red Lake District Fastball League Championship.**

1965: Played for Campbell Mine Fastball Team. Won the **Red Lake District Fastball League Championship.**

Players from the original team (Jack Green, Howard Green, Jim Shearn, Andy McDougall, Pete McCarthy, Brian McGoveran), began to move away either to attend university, play with professional fastball clubs, or take employment elsewhere. As they left, the calibre of play began to decline and Red Lake's 'Golden Years of Fastball' were beginning to fade. Ron stayed in the area, and was a playing coach until his retirement.

1968: Played for Molson Canadians at the national championships held in St. Catherines, Ontario.

1969/70: Played for Campbell Mine Team won the **Atikokan Tournament,** which involved 14 teams from across Northwestern Ontario.

1973: Selected Coach of the Year in the Red Lake District League.

1985 - 87: Pitched for the Manitoba Masters All-Star Team (for players 40 years old and over). He was instrumental in helping the team reach medal standing in the Western Canadian Masters Softball Championships held in Calgary in 1987.