

New Kernels catcher failed drug test

Written by Metro Sports Report
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New Cedar Rapids Kernels catcher Michael Quesada failed a drug test last season and was suspended by Minor League Baseball for 50 games, according to reports by Baseball America and the TwinsDaily website.

Quesada said on his Twitter account Saturday that he'll report to Cedar Rapids on Monday. "Off to CR Kernels on Monday bright and early," he said.

The Kernels will finish a 12-game road trip in Beloit Monday and will open a seven-game homestand Tuesday against Burlington at 6:35 p.m.

Quesada reportedly tested positive for methylhexaneamine, which has been banned by professional baseball as a performance-enhancing substance. The substance initially was patented as a nasal decongestant.

Methylhexaneamine also has been marketed as a dietary supplement, but it's safety has been questioned by food and drug authorities.

Quesada, 23, was drafted by the Minnesota Twins in the 24th round in 2010. He hit .234 with no homers and 10 RBIs in 18 games for Elizabethton in the Twins organization in 2012 before being suspended. He has a career batting average of .213 in 62 minor league games.

Quesada, from Folsom, Calif., played at Sierra Junior College in California.

He will replace Jairo Rodriguez on the Kernels roster and give the team three catchers again. Rodriguez was assigned to Fort Myers in the Florida State League.