

9 July 2013

JAPAN CROWNED JUNIOR WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONS

The ISF Junior Women's World Championship concluded on Sunday in Brampton, Ontario, Canada with Japan earning the Gold medal following a 4-0 win over the United States after the game was called after six innings due to rain. The game was scoreless through four innings before Japan opened the scoring with four runs in the top of the fifth. With two outs in the top of the sixth, thunderstorms caused a three hour rain delay, and once the field was declared playable, the teams were able to complete the sixth inning before another rain delay forced tournament officials to award the win to Japan.

Earlier in the day, Japan defeated Australia 9-2 in the Bronze medal game to earn a spot in the Championship game, and Mexico defeated the Czech Republic 5-2 to win the consolation final.

2nd EAST ASIAN SOFTBALL CUP SUPPORTS PLAYBALL 2020

The Japan Softball Association hosted the 2nd East Asian Cup in Ibigawa, Japan this weekend. The tournament



featured four countries from the East Asian region (in order of finish): Japan, China, Chinese Taipei, and Korea. All teams came together to show their support for the WBC Playball 2020 Olympic campaign. Over 150 video comments were captured from players and fans throughout the tournament.

SOFTBALL ON THE PROGRAMME OF THE MALAYSIAN GAMES



The Malaysia Games, the largest multi-sport Games in Malaysia, finished on Sunday. The Games, which incorporates 44 sports - 24 sports one year and other 20 the following year, featured both men and women's softball. Softball is a popular non-contact team sport at the

schools and universities levels in Malaysia and feature in the annual All Malaysian National Schools Championship and the Malaysia Inter-University Competitions.

The six day softball competition had 11 of the 14 states present for both genders with 187 men and 187 women athletes. For the Junior Men softball competition, the champion was the state of Pahang, second was Perak and third was Kedah. For the Junior Women competition, the champion was the state of Penang, second was Perak and third was Pahang.

WORLD CUP OF SOFTBALL 8 BEGINS THURSDAY

ASA/USA Softball will be hosting four leading softball teams in the world July 11-14 in the World Cup of Softball VIII along with the Border Battle V and Slow Pitch Showdown. The WBSC will be prominent in the event with officials in attendance and fans receiving give-aways. USA will look to

defend their top finish from last year's World Cup as they take on reigning ISF World Champion Japan, Australia, Canada and Puerto Rico in the four-day event. The USA Men's Slow Pitch Team will also compete in the fifth annual Border Battle as they look to improve their record to 4-1 over the Canadian Men's Slow Pitch National Team.

The World Cup of Softball, sanctioned by the ISF, will be broadcast in over 150 countries across ESPN's international networks including ESPN America, ESPN Pacific Rim, ESPN Australia HD, ESPN Brazil HD, ESPN Israel, ESPN Middle East, ESPN Africa, ESPN Caribbean, and ESPN2 Caribbean. Over 14 hours of live coverage including the Championship Game on Sunday will be available in HD and live streaming via WatchESPN. Games not televised by ESPN will be available for viewing via a live stream on USASoftball.com.



EUROPEAN WOMEN'S SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP UNDERWAY

The 18th European Women's Softball Championship began Sunday in Prague, Czech Republic. The 20 nation fast pitch tournament runs through Saturday, July 13. The top three finishing countries will qualify for the 14th ISF Women's World Championship, being held next year in Haarlem, Netherlands. For full coverage of the tournament, visit the event website at euro2013.softball.cz.

ZIMBABWE HOLDS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

The 3rd National High Schools Softball Explosion (19-under) was held in Progress, Gweru, Midlands Province June 28-30 at Chaplin High School. This year 8 out of 10 provinces participated with a total of 24 Girls Schools Teams after qualifying from their recently held Provincial championships. The championship will also be used to select players for the 19-under girls national teams in the upcoming Zone 6 tournament. Chinhoyi High School won gold, Alaska High School won silver, and St Joseph's High School of Manicaland earned bronze. It was announced that Harare metropolitan Province will be hosting both the boys and girls games in 2014 and Mashonaland East at Watershed High School will host in 2015.



BRAZIL YOUTH VISIT ISF HEADQUARTERS

A Brazilian junior girl's team ages 11 to 16 years old visited the ISF World Headquarters last Wednesday, July 3. The girls are part of a club team based in Rio de Janeiro, who came to USA to play in an invitational tournament in Orlando, Florida this past weekend (July 4-7). During their visit to the ISF facilities they toured the ISF facilities, practiced, and received equipment.



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