

24 April 2013

## ISF PRESIDENT VISITS CHINA

ISF President Don Porter was on-hand in Tainjin, China for the dedication ceremony for the Samaranch Memorial Museum. He was able to tour the museum and view the many Olympic related memorabilia. There are more than 16,000 items in the collection but currently only a 1,000 are on display as exhibits will be rotated. Softball is featured in the museum with several items in the collection.



*Statue of former IOC President, Juan Antonio Samaranch, Sr. outside the Samaranch Memorial Museum*



*"Play At Home" sculpture is one of the many items on display at the Samaranch Memorial Museum*

President Porter also took the opportunity while in China to visit with China Softball Association's 1st executive vice president, Ms. Tan Yin, and other CSA officials in Beijing. Ms. Tan informed the ISF President that China Softball was working on the development of the slow pitch discipline where greater participation was expected. They also are expanding the school and university competitions, in addition to tee ball for the youth.



*Don Porter presents CSA's 1st executive vice president, Ms. Tan Yin, with a souvenir Beijing 2008 ball*

## NATIONAL FEDERATIONS HOLD ELECTIONS

The Swedish Baseball and Softball Federation and the Iraqi Baseball and Softball Federation both recently held annual meetings to elect new executive boards.

In Sweden, Mr. Johnny Stormats was unanimously elected as President. He will replace Mr. Mats Fransson who did not seek re-election to focus on his role within the CEB. Mr. Kristian Palvia will remain as Secretary General.

In Iraq, Mr. Ali Baldawi was overwhelmingly elected as President. He previously held the position of Secretary General. Mr. Ali Abdulwaheed will replace Mr. Baldawi as Secretary General.



*(left to right): New SBSF President, Johnny STORMATS, sits next to former SBSF President, Mats FRANSSON at their Annual Meeting (photo: SBSF)*

## U12 TOURNAMENT IN GERMANY

Last Sunday, the first children's U12 softball tournament took place in Hesse, Germany. The local clubs, Darmstadt Rockets and RocKiddies, hosted the tournament for all U12 clubs within a 200km radius. All children involved received recognition and a certificate for their participation. Due to the success of this event, future tournaments will be repeated. Everyone involved, including the spectators, walked away with smiles on their faces.



*Participants take part in the U12 tournament in Germany (photos: Darmstadt Rockets)*

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