

### Mongolia Olympic Committee to boost baseball/softball with eyes on Tokyo 2020 Games



ULAANBAATAR, Mongolia -- The National Olympic Committee of Mongolia recently [announced](#) its formal approval to support the development of baseball/softball, along with Karate, as the East Asian nation outlines its strategic road-map to the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.

Leaders of the recently merged Mongolian Baseball and Softball Federation (MBSF) met with the Mongolian Olympic Committee to share their Olympic baseball/softball goals, which include qualifying for the Tokyo 2020 Games. The MBSF is also eyeing the Asian Games 2018, where baseball/softball are on the programme.

The Mongolian National Olympic Committee plans to back the MBSF through [Olympic Solidarity](#) grants for coach instruction and athlete development, according to *insidethegames.biz*. [Read more...](#)

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## New Zealand wins Men's Softball Challenge Cup after blanking Argentina in final



AUCKLAND -- The [world's No. 1 ranked team](#), New Zealand, rediscovered their form with a disciplined 9-0 win over Argentina in the final of the WBSC-sanctioned Challenge Cup in Auckland.

The Black Sox avenged their previous defeat against Argentina from November 2016 by winning the Men's Softball TAB Challenge Cup over the South American powerhouse. [Read more...](#)

### FINAL STANDINGS

- 1st: New Zealand
- 2nd: Argentina
- 3rd: Japan
- 4th: Australia
- 5th: Czech Republic
- 6th: Samoa

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## WBSC President welcomes India's first-ever Baseball Stadium



LAUSANNE -- World Baseball Softball Confederation President Riccardo Fraccari welcomed news that the construction of India's first-ever baseball stadium has been completed near the Gurgoan-Delhi border, as [reported](#) by The Times of India.

The first-ever baseball game at the new venue was played on Sunday (5 February) and was attended by Canada's High Commissioner in India, Nadir Patel.

"The game is once again gaining momentum especially in Asia and is also being included in the next Olympics," Patel told [Indian Sports News](#). [Read more...](#)

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## Baseball is Bahamas' fastest growing sport, says government official



NASSAU, The Bahamas -- Baseball is the fastest growing sport in The Bahamas, according to government officials and media reports from the nation's leading newspaper, *The Bahamas Tribune*.

The island of nearly 400,000 inhabitants is geographically positioned between two elite baseball nations, current world No. 2 United States and No. 5 Cuba. Baseball is also one of the most popular sports across the Caribbean and the Americas.

Bahamas Senator Greg Burrows, who is also the president of the Freedom Farm Baseball League, [said](#), "[Baseball is] the number one [sports] programme in the country - the largest in the country."

"Baseball is arguably the sport with the most populous and effective development programme in the country," [wrote](#) Bahamas Tribune sports reporter Renaldo Dorsett. [Read more...](#)

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## WBSC reveals Logo, National Teams for U-12 Baseball World Cup 2017 in Tainan, Taiwan



LAUSANNE -- The WBSC unveiled the new official emblem and qualified nations for the [WBSC U-12 Baseball World Cup® 2017](#).

The fourth edition of the U-12 youth world championship -- which is baseball's highest level of competition for 11- and 12-year-old players -- will be staged in Tainan, Taiwan, from 28 July to 6 August.

The 12 nations that will battle *For the Title of World Champion* in Tainan are as follows and feature a global footprint that spans across six continents:

- **Africa** (1): No. 28 South Africa
- **Americas** - North and South America (4): No. 2 United States, No. 6 Mexico, No. 16 Nicaragua, No. 17 Brazil
- **Asia** (3): No. 1 Japan, No. 3 Korea, No. 4 Chinese Taipei
- **Europe** (2): No. 14 Czech Republic, No. 20 Germany
- **Oceania** (1): No. 10 Australia
- **Wild Card** (1): No. 15 Panama

[Read more...](#)



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## New baseball, softball leaders elected in Americas, Europe

BELGRADE & PANAMA CITY -- WBSC's continental baseball and softball bodies recently elected new leaders.

In Panama City, Dominican Republic's Tito Pereyra was unanimously elected president of the 29-nation Pan Am Baseball Confederation (Copabe), and will replace Nicaragua's Nemesio Porras on the executive committee of the WBSC Baseball Division. Pereyra stated the Pan-Am youth continental championships (WBSC Baseball World Cup qualifiers) have enormous commercial and broadcast potential. (See full [Pan-Am Baseball Executive Committee](#))

In Serbia, elections were held at the joint baseball softball congress. The 40-nation Confederation of European Baseball (CEB) unanimously elected Didier Seminet (FRA) as president, while the 37-nation European Softball Federation (ESF) unanimously elected Gabriel Waage (CZE) as president. (See full [CEB Executive Board](#) / [ESF Executive Board](#)) [Read more...](#)

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## National Team rosters revealed for World Baseball Classic 2017



National Team rosters were revealed for the fourth edition of the [World Baseball Classic](#), which is set to take place across two continents from 6-22 March.

The top-tier international tournament, hosted by Major League Baseball (MLB) and the MLB Players Association, is sanctioned by WBSC as an official baseball world championship, with WBSC awarding 1,150 [world ranking](#) points to the winning nation.

Rosters can consist of a maximum of 28 players, with a minimum of 13 pitchers and 2 catchers. [Read more...](#)

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## Road to 2020 Olympics: Softball Australia partners with USA's pro softball league to strengthen programme



Australia's national governing body of softball and WBSC Member, [Softball Australia](#), has partnered with USA's National Pro Fastpitch (NPF) for the 2017 season and beyond for eight elite Australian women's softball athletes to play for the Chicago Bandits franchise. The agreement also allows Australian high-performance coaches to work with the Bandits' coaching staff during the season.

"This partnership between Softball Australia and National Pro Fastpitch is a critical step forward for our women's high-performance program looking towards the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games," Softball Australia CEO Chet Gray said.

Australia is currently No. 4 in the [WBSC Women's Softball World Rankings](#). [Read more...](#)

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## New baseball para-sports ballpark opens, first of its kind in Western Canada



VANCOUVER, Canada -- Variety Challenger Baseball Field, a new base-ballpark specifically designed for children with physical and/or mental challenges, has opened in Vancouver. The inviting 'all-children-welcome' ballpark is the first of its kind in Western Canada.

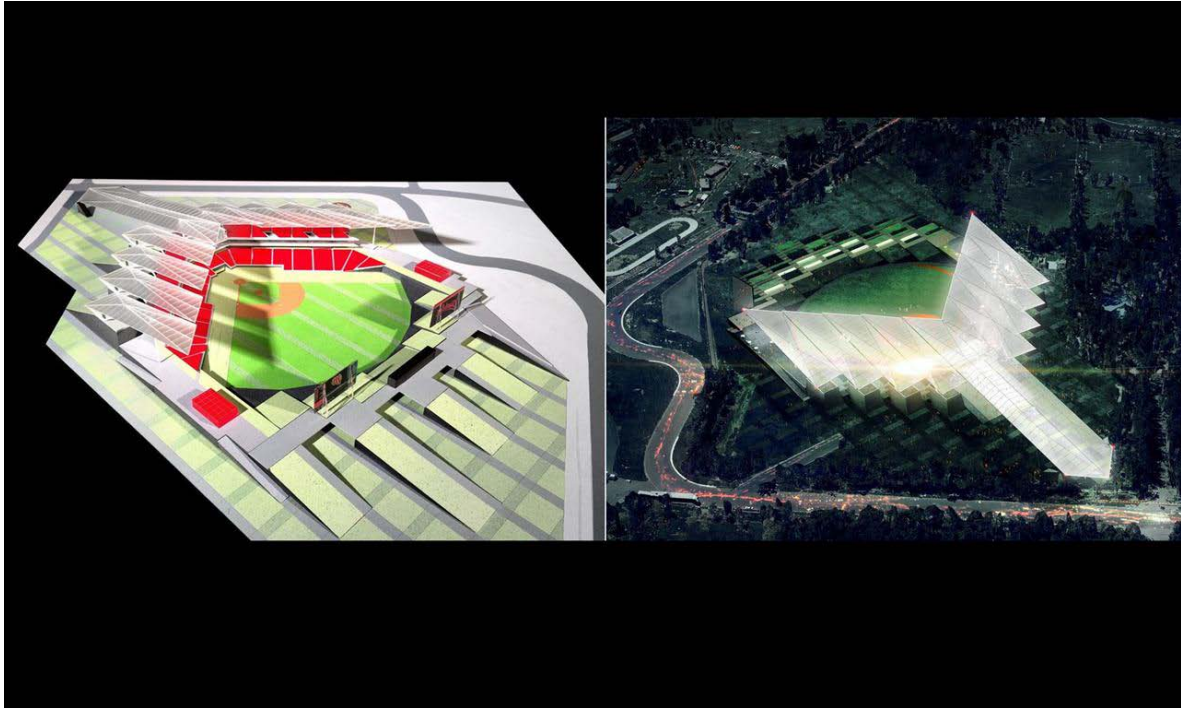
The newly constructed high-accessible facility, valued at approximately \$CAD 300,000, looks like a traditional facility but is free of stairs and features a smooth synthetic infield surface, which facilitates a freer movement for boys and girls equipped with wheelchairs. There are also more spacious dugouts and entryways to accommodate players with mobility aides.

The new para-sports baseball project was developed through a collaboration between Variety Children's Charity, the Vancouver Board of Parks & Recreation, Major League Baseball's Toronto Blue Jays and the Vancouver Canadians, the Blue Jays' minor league affiliate. [Read more...](#)



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## New \$60 million 'luxury' baseball stadium to be unveiled in Mexico City



MEXICO CITY -- The Ciudad de Mexico (CDMX) and the Diablos Rojos del Mexico will unveil a US\$ 60 million, state-of-the-art baseball stadium in the nation's capital later this year.

Diablos club owner Alfredo Harp Helu says construction of the 13,000-seat luxury stadium, which was designed 2014, is over 50 percent complete. The newest Mexican Baseball League (LMB) venue will be equipped with a lightweight steel roof in the shape of a devil's pitchfork, adding another unique asset to the Diablos Rojos ("Red Devils") brand.

Diablos officials are hoping the club's "futuristic" new home, which will include training fields for youth teams and vast public space, will further boost baseball's popularity in Mexico and serve as an international tourist attraction. [Read more...](#)

## WBSC Softball leaders meet with Serbian Minister of Sport



BELGRADE, Serbia -- WBSC Softball Division and European Softball Federation (ESF) officials met with the Serbian Minister of Sport, Vanja Udovicic, prior to the start of the ESF and Confederation of European Baseball (CEB) joint Congress.

The reception at the Palace of Serbia was attended by the WBSC Softball Division Chairman Dale McMann, Executive Director Ron Radigonda, Assistant Executive Director Laurie Gouthro, ESF President Gabriel Waage, and Serbian Softball Federation Slobodan Djuric.

"It is a pleasure to have the opportunity to host top officials from the World and European softball and baseball federations at the Congress in Belgrade, showing initiative in developing international relations in the field of sport, as well as supporting sports that do not have a long tradition in Serbia," said Udovicic. [Read more...](#)

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## **WBSC WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 2017**

### **WBSC Men's Softball World Championship**

Whitehorse, Canada - 7 to 16 Jul #2016MWC

### **WBSC U-19 Junior Women's Softball World Championship**

Clearwater, FL, USA - 24 to 30 Jul #2016JWWC

### **WBSC U-12 Baseball World Cup**

Tainan, Chinese Taipei - 28 Jul to 6 Aug #U12WorldCup

### **WBSC U-18 Baseball World Cup**

Thunder Bay, Canada - 1 to 10 Sept #U18WorldCup

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#### **About World Baseball Softball Confederation**

Headquartered in Lausanne, Switzerland -- the Olympic Capital -- the World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) was established in 2013 and granted recognition as the sole competent authority for the sport of Baseball/Softball by the International Olympic Committee at the 125th IOC Session on 8 September 2013. The WBSC has 213 National Federation and Associate Members in 142 countries and territories across Asia, Africa, Americas, Europe and Oceania.

