

SOFTBALL CONFEDERATION ASIA

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REPORT OF SCA PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY-GENERAL (For period 7 October 2014 to 30 November 2016)

29 OCTOBER 2014 22ND SCA CONGRESS 2014

The 22nd SCA Congress was held on 29 October 2014 at Yoou Shan Hotel, Nantou, Taiwan. SCA outgoing President, Dato' Beng Choo LOW informed the floor that she would not be seeking for another term in view of her commitments to World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) and to allow for new leadership.

The election was held and the new SCA Executive Council members are as follows:

President: Mr. Pan Yi Chuan (Chinese Taipei)

1st Vice President: Ms. Taeko Utsugi (Japan)

Vice Presidents: Mr. Banyong Kiatkongchuchai (Thailand)

Dr. Yang Xu (China)

Mr. Syahrir Nawier (Indonesia) Mr. See Kok Wooi (Malaysia) Mr. Choi Chulnam (Korea)

Secretary-General: Ms. Sally Lim Swee Gaik (Malaysia)
Secretary to President: Mr. Chang Chia Hsing (Chinese Taipei)
Hon. Life President: Dato' Beng Choo Low (Malaysia)

Advisor: Mr. Hiromi Tokuda (Japan)

The newly elected SCA President, Pan Yi Chuan, in his speech, thanked everyone present for their support and promised to continue developing and improving softball in Asia. He requested for everyone's cooperation and support. He acknowledged and thanked Dato' Beng Choo Low for the progress softball has made in Asia and ISF under her leadership as the President of SCA. Dato' Beng Choo Low was appointed as the Hon. Life President of SCA. Mr. Hiromi Tokuda was appointed as Advisor to SCA. Mr. Steven Huang remains in his position as the Hon. Life President of SCA.

SCA would like to record its heartfelt thanks to CTASA for hosting the 22nd SCA Congress especially to CTASA office staff who worked very hard to make it a success. The very warm hospitality extended to the softball family by Mr. Pan Yi Chuan is much appreciated.

<u>14 – 16 DECEMBER 2014</u> ASIA QUALIFIER (MEN) – SINGAPORE

Singapore hosted the Men Asian Qualifier for the 14th Men's Softball World Championship to be held in Saskatoon, Canada June/July 2015. Six (6) national teams participated – Brunei, Indonesia, Japan, Pakistan, Philippines and Singapore. The results are as follows:

Gold: Japan
Silver: Philippines
Bronze: Indonesia
4th: Singapore
5th: Brunei
6th: Pakistan

Japan, Philippines and Indonesia qualified for the World Championship.

<u>19 – 21 JANUARY 2015</u> PRESS CONFERENCE IN TOKYO & TAIPEI

The WBSC Tokyo 2020 Bid Team which included WBSC President Ricardo Fraccari and Secretary-General Dato' Beng Choo Low went on an intensive working visit to Tokyo and Chinese Taipei for WBSC's Premier 12 Baseball Championship 2015 Press Conference and Launch, and as part of the ongoing campaign for the inclusion of Baseball – Softball onto the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games programme..

The Premier 12 is a competition for the top 12 world ranked Men's Baseball teams. Together with Japan Softball Association (JSA) President Mr. Hiromi Tokuda, they paid a courtesy visit to Tokyo Organising Committee for the Olympic & Paralympic Games (TOCOG), President Yoshiro Mori. They also paid a courtesy visit to Japan Olympic Committee (JOC) President Tsunekazu Takeda and other JOC Board members.

There was also a joint meeting of the 3-organizations council consisting of Nippon Professional Baseball (NFB), Baseball Federation of Japan (BFJ) and JSA. JSA was represented by Hiromi Tokuda, Taeko Utsugi, Masanori Ozaki, Sugao Takahashi and Hiroyuki Yokota. The Joint meeting agreed and pledged to work hard jointly to make the Tokyo 2020 goal a reality.

A Press Conference followed and the three organisations confirmed that if the disciplines of Baseball and Softball are included in Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, they would send the best national teams for both Baseball and Softball.

All concerned, including SCA and its affiliates, need to continue to be diligent in their Softball events and activities.

26 JANUARY 2015

1st SCA EXCO MEETING (01/2014-2018)

The 1st SCA EXCO Meeting was held at Grand Millennium Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 26 January 2015.

Please refer to Minutes of the 1st SCA EXCO Meeting 2015.

9 FEBRUARY 2015

SEA GAMES TECHNICAL MEETING

Dato' Beng Choo Low and See Kok Wooi attended a Technical Meeting of the South East Asia (SEA) Games in Singapore to discuss preparations and arrangements for the Softball competition (Men and Women) in the South East Asia (SEA) Games in June 2015. See Kok Wooi was appointed as the Technical Delegate for Softball (Men & Women) in the SEA Games to be held in June 2015.

12 - 20 MARCH 2015

SCA UMPIRES CERTIFICATION COURSE

An SCA umpire certification course was conducted by SCA Chief Umpire Jimmy Chen Kuo Hwa (Chinese Taipei) and Rosli Ismail (Malaysia).

The participants were:

Chinese Taipei: Chen Hung Lin

Wong Nien Tai

Singapore: Thong Wei Mun

15 - 20 MARCH 2015

5TH ASIAN JUNIOR WOMEN (19 & UNDER) CHAMPIONSHIP – CHAIYAPHUM, THAILAND

The 5th Asian Junior Women (19 & Under) Softball Championship 2015 was held in Chaiyaphum, Thailand, where the President of the Amateur Softball Association – Thailand (ASAT), Mr. Banyong Kiatkongchuchai is the Honourable Mayor. The SCA officials were as follows:

Technical Delegate: See Kok Wooi (Malaysia)

Technical Assistants: Mohd. Ikhsan b. Mohd. (Malaysia)

Abdul Rashid b. Abdul Hamid (Malaysia)

Chief Umpire: Jimmy Chen Kuo Hwa (Chinese Taipei)

Asst. Chief Umpire: Rosli Ismail (Malaysia)

Umpires: M.K. Narayanasamy (Malaysia)

Tseng Chiung Hsien - Female (Chinese Taipei) Nor Hajar A. Hamid – Female (Malaysia)

Yu Ko Chin (Chinese Taipei) Taufik Winardi (Indonesia) Kittisak Na Rangsri (Thailand) Kamthorn Ngootip (Thailand) Supot Suksanat (Thailand) Pansiri Jaidee (Thailand)

Scorer: Chang Sy Chau (Chinese Taipei)

7 teams participated in the above Championship, namely, Chinese-Taipei, Japan, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand.

After a preliminary single round robin competition, the standing of the 6 teams was as follows: Japan, Chinese-Taipei, Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia and Malaysia with the top 4 teams qualifying for the single page-system play-off. The final results - standing of the 4 teams was as follows:

First: Japan

Second: Chinese Taipei Third: Thailand Fourth: Singapore

The detailed results is at the end of this report (Peach color)

SCA records its thanks to the Amateur Softball Association of Thailand (ASAT), its officials and volunteers, for ensuring a successful competition, to all athletes and team officials for their competitive yet good sportsmanlike participation, all SCA members and officials for their dedicated service.

<u>5 – 16 JUNE 2015</u> SEA GAMES SINGAPORE

The 28^{th} South East Asia (SEA) Games was held in Singapore from 5-16 June 2015. Softball was held from 6-10 June 2015. Both Men and Women Softball were competed and all the games were played at Kallang Softball Park, Singapore.

5 Men and 5 Women teams participated in the SEA Games; both Men and Women teams coming from Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. After a preliminary single round robin competition, the top 4 teams qualified for the single page-system play-off. The final result – teams standing of the 4 teams was as follows:

Men Women Champion: **Philippines Philippines** Runner-Up: Indonesia Thailand 3rd: Singapore Singapore 4th: Malaysia Indonesia 5th: Thailand Malaysia

Please refer to detailed results at the back of this report (blue color). The SCA officials were as follows:

Officials

Technical Delegate: See Kok Wooi (Malaysia) Competition Manager: Ahmad Masran (Singapore) Chief Umpire: Rosli Ismail (Malaysia)

Jury Members: Banyong Kiatkongchuchai (Thailand)

Jeffeury Tan Kok Siong (Singapore) Sally Lim Swee Gaik (Malaysia)

Umpires: M.K. Narayanasamy (Malaysia)

Rosmi b. Majidek (Malaysia)

Nifizah bt. Mohd. Taib (Malaysia - Female) Nor Hajar bt. Abdul Hamid (Malaysia - Female)

Wichai Thongwong (Thailand) Bureerat Suwannawat (Thailand) Piamjit Pattama (Thailand - Female)

Keitoku Chiba (Japan)

Pg. Khairil b. Pg. Hj. Hassan (Brunei)

Taufik Winardi (Indonesia)

Rully Rinaldi Andriyanto (Indonesia) Hu Tsang Sheng (Chinese Taipei) Chen Tsung Ho (Chinese Taipei)

Koh Ruoh Jie (Singapore)
Jerry Ng Ah Bah (Singapore)
Thong Wei Mun (Singapore)
Han Chin Siew (Singapore)

Chief Scorer: Rachmad Aulia (Indonesia)
Scorers: Ahyan Yusof (Indonesia)
Cozette Roy (Singapore)

Marcus Yeo Chee Ming (Singapore)

SCA Secretariat: Willeam Mah Choon How (Malaysia) Technical Assistant: Mohd. B. Mohd. Ikhsan (Malaysia) SCA records its thanks to the Singapore Baseball & Softball Association (SBSA), its officials and volunteers, for ensuring a successful competition, to all athletes and team officials for their competitive yet good sportsmanlike participation, all SCA members and officials for their dedicated service.

25 - 28 JUNE 2015 4TH EAST ASIA CUP – WOMEN

The 4th East Asia Cup was held in Wan-Shou Field, Taichung City, Taiwan. Five (5) teams participated, namely China, Chinese-Taipei, Japan, Korea and Hong Kong (by special invitation).

Champion : Japan

Runner-up : Chinese Taipei

 3rd
 : Korea

 4th
 : China

 5th
 : Hong Kong

Please refer to detailed results at the back of this report (yellow color).

JULY 2015

14TH MEN SOFTBALL WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP - SASKATOON

The 14th World Men Softball Championship featuring the top sixteen (16) national teams was held in Saskatoon, Canada. The teams were Argentina, Australia, Canada, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Great Britain, Guatemala, **Japan**, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, **Philippines**, Venezuela and USA. Unfortunately, Indonesia withdrew and did not participate.

The final standing is as follows:

Gold: Canada
Silver: New Zealand
Bronze: Venezuela
4th: Australia

5th: Dominican Republic

6th: Japan

7th: Great Britain
8th: Argentina
9th: USA
10th: Mexico

11th: Great Britain
12th: Guatemala
13th: Denmark
14th: Philippines
15th: Netherlands

7-8 AUGUST 2015 - TOKYO

The WBSC attended a two-day interview in Tokyo with Tokyo 2020 Olympic Organisers and made an official presentation for the inclusion of Baseball (Men) and Softball (Women) onto the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games Sports programme.

The WBSC team included Dato' Beng Choo Low and Ms. Taeko Utsugi from Asia.

9 - 15 AUGUST 2015

11TH JUNIOR WOMEN SOFTBALL WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP - OKLAHOMA

The 11th Junior Women Softball World Championship featuring the top fifteen (15) national teams was held in ASA Hall of Fame Complex, Oklahoma City. The teams were Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, **China, Chinese-Taipei**, Colombia, Czech Republic, Great Britain, Italy, **Japan**, Mexico, New Zealand, Puerto Rico and USA.

The final standing is as follows:

Gold: USA
Silver: Japan
Bronze: Puerto Rico
4th: Canada
5th: Mexico
6th: New Zealand
7th: Australia

8th: Chinese Taipei

9th: Italy 10th: Brazil

11th: Czech Republic

12th: China

13th: Great Britain 14th: Argentina 15th: Colombia

22 AUGUST 2015

OLYMPIC COUNCIL OF MALAYSIA AGM/ELECTIONS

The Olympic Council of Malaysia (OCM) held its Annual General Meeting on 22 August 2015 and Dato' Beng Choo Low succeeded in her first attempt as Secretary-General of OCM. She is the first female to hold the post of Secretary-General of OCM in its 61 years history (1954). SCA extends our heartiest congratulations to our esteemed Hon. Life President.

13 OCTOBER 2015

ISF CONGRESS, OKLAHOMA

Dato' Beng Choo Low, ISF and WBSC Secretary-General, attended the 27th ISF Congress which was held at the Renaissance Hotel and Convention Center in Oklahoma City, USA. It was announced that the next host for the 2017 ISF Congress was awarded to Gaborone, Botswana.

The following announcements were also made:

- 2018 WBSC Junior Men Softball World Championship Prince Albert, SK, Canada
- 2018 WBSC Women Softball World Championship Chiba, Japan
- 2019 WBSC Junior Women Softball World Championship Irvine, CA, USA
- 2019 WBSC Men Softball World Championship Prague/Havlickuv Brod, Czech Republic.

8 – 21 NOVEMBER 2015

WBSC PREMIER 12

The WBSC Premier 12, consisting of the top 12 national Baseball teams in the world, was held from 8-12 November 2015 in Japan and Taiwan. The teams were:

- #1 Japan
- #2 United States
- #3 Cuba
- **#4** Chinese Taipei
- #5 Netherlands
- #6 Dominican Republic
- #7 Canada
- #8 South Korea
- #9 Puerto Rico
- #10 Venezuela
- #11 Italy
- #12 Mexico

The final results are as follows:

Gold: South Korea Silver: United States Bronze: Japan

Ms. T. Utsugi as WBSC Vice President, and Dato' Beng Choo Low, as WBSC Secretary-General, attended the finals in Tokyo.

14 MARCH 2016

IN MEMORIAM - JIMMY CHEN KUO-HWA

The Executive Board of SCA, SCA members and entire Asia Softball family were saddened by the sudden demise of Jimmy Chen Kuo-Hwa on 14 March 2016. He was a very experienced umpire from CTASA and was appointed Chief Umpire/Asia Region Umpire Coordinator by SCA from 2011 till his sudden demise. It is a tremendous loss to Asia and he is greatly missed. The South East Asia Softball Family extends deepest condolences to his family.

JUNE 2016

5TH EAST ASIA CUP – KOREA

China, Chinese Taipei, Japan and Korea participated in this 5^{th} series of the East Asia Cup which was held at the Iksan National Baseball Stadium in Iksan-si. Jeollabuk-do, Korea from 8-13 June 2016.

The results are as follows:

1st Place: China 2nd Place: Japan

3rd Place: Chinese Taipei

4th Place: Korea

Please refer to detailed results at the back of this report (Yellow)

SCA would like to thank Korea Softball Federation (KSF) for hosting and organising this competition.

25 JUNE 2016

RECORD 31k SPECTATORS FOR SOFTBALL AT TOKYO DOME

Japan defeated USA, 5-1, in their final preparations for the 2016 WBSC Women's World Championship to be held in Surrey, Canada; in the presence of over 31,000 fans at the Tokyo Dome. This is the first time that Softball is played in this historic facility, and watched by a record breaking crowd. Dato' Beng Choo LOW, Ms. Taeko Utsugi and other JSA officials were among those present at the event. Dale McMann, WBSC Vice President, Softball

Division and Softball Executive Director, Mr. Ron Radigonda and officials from Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games Organising Committee were also present.

15 - 24 JULY 2016

15^{TH} WBSC WOMEN'S SOFTBALL WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SURREY, CANADA

All 31 participating National Teams played on the Opening Day, Friday, 15 July. The teams were divided into 8 groups. Following 3 days of preliminary rounds, 16 nations (top 2 from each group) advanced into the championship round. Among the teams from Asia who participated were China, Chinese Taipei and Philippines. The final results are as follows:

Gold; USA
Silver: JAPAN
Bronze: CANADA

SCA congratulates Japan for winning the silver medal!

24 – 30 JULY 2016

WBSC XI JUNIOR (U-19) MEN'S SOFTBALL WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP MIDLAND, USA

A total of 12 teams (only 1 team form Asia-Japan) participated in the XI Junior (U-19) Men Softball World Championship held in Midland, USA. **Congratulations to Japan** for winning the gold medal at this championship.

Final Results;

Gold: Japan

Silver: New Zealand

Bronze: Canada

4 AUGUST 2016

WE ARE BACK! TOKYO OLYMPIC GAMES 2020

The announcement of the historic decision by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to add Baseball (Men) and Softball (Women) to the Olympic Games in Tokyo 2020 was received "Live" worldwide by the baseball and softball community.

WBSC President Riccardo Fraccari, Vice President (Softball Division) Mr. Dale McMann and WBSC Secretary-General Dato Beng Choo Low, were present when the IOC announced the return of both baseball and softball to the Olympics at the 129th IOC Session in Rio de Janeiro. All the hard work put in by the WBSC team (which includes Dato' Beng Choo Low and Ms. Taeko Utsugi from Asia) has finally paid off! Japan Olympic Committee (JOC) and Japan Softball Association (JSA) played a big role in the comeback.

<u>20 – 27 AUGUST 2016</u>

WBSC SOFTBALL DIVISION UMPIRES COURSE

A WBSC Softball Division Umpires course was conducted by Mr. Bob Stanton, Chief Umpire WBSC Softball Division. He was assisted by Ms. Haruhi Goto, umpire from Japan Softball Association (JSA) and Mr. Rosli Ismail, Chief Umpire from Softball Association of Malaysia (SAM). A total of 16 umpires from CTASA and 1 from SAM participated; consisting of 14 males and 3 females.

Results for Re-Certification and Certification:

WBSC SD Re-Certified – 11 (11 from CTASA, 2 female, 9 male)

WBSC SD Certified (New) – 4 (4 male)

SCA Certified – 2 (1 male from CTASA and 1 female from SAM)

SCA records thanks to Mr. Bob Stanton, Ms. Haruhi Goto, Mr. Rosli Ismail and the Chinese Taipei Amateur Softball Association (CTASA) officials for conducting a very successful Umpire Course.

<u>23 – 27 AUGUST 2016</u>

1ST ASIAN UNIVERSITY WOMEN SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP 2016

Five (5) teams participated in the inaugural Asian University Women Softball Championship 2016. They were Chinese Taipei, India, Japan, Korea and Malaysia.

The co-chief umpires were Ms. Haruhi Goto from JSA and Mr. Michael Chen from CTASA. After a preliminary single round robin competition, the top 4 teams qualified for the single page-system play-off. The final result was as follows:

Gold: Chinese Taipei

Silver: Korea
Bronze: Japan
4th: Malaysia

5th: India

SCA records its thanks to the Chinese Taipei Amateur Softball Association (CTASA), its officials and volunteers, for ensuring a successful competition.

29 SEPTEMBER – 1 OCTOBER

2ND SOUTH EAST ASIA (SEA) CUP - MEN - POLIMAS, MALAYSIA

Softball Association of Malaysia (SAM) hosted the 2nd South East Asia (SEA) Cup (Men) which was held in Polimas, Malaysia from 29th September to 1st October 2016. Four teams participated. They were Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore.

The final results were as follows:

1st Place:Indonesia2nd Place:Malaysia3rd Place:Singapore4th Place:BruneiDetailed results are at the back of this report (Blue)

17 – 25 OCTOBER 2016

WBSC SOFTBALL DIVISION UMPIRES COURSE

A WBSC Softball Division Umpires Certification Course was conducted by Ms. Haruhi Goto from JSA. She was assisted by Li Zhe, chief umpire of Chinese Softball Association (CSA). A total of 15 umpires attended the course and the results summary is as follows:

WBSC Softball Division certified – 7 (China) SCA certified – 5 (4 China, 1 Korea)

20 – 25 OCTOBER 2016

6TH ASIAN JUNIOR (19 & UNDER) WOMEN SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP 2016 PANZHIHUA CITY, SICHUAN PROVINCE, CHINA

Five (5) teams participated in the 6th Asian Junior Women Softball Championship 2016. They were China, Chinese Taipei, India, Japan and Korea.

The co-chief umpires were Ms. Haruhi Goto from JSA and Mr. Li Zhe from CSA.

There were a total of 85 players, 29 team officials and 18 umpires.Mr. See Kok Wooi, SCA Vice President was in Panzhihua to oversee the umpires course and championship.

After a preliminary single round robin competition, the top 4 teams qualified for the single page-system play-off. The final result was as follows:

Gold: Chinese Taipei

Silver: Korea
Bronze: Japan
4th: Korea
5th: India

SCA records its thanks to the Chinese Softball Association, its officials and volunteers, for ensuring a successful competition.

ASIAN/WORLD SOFTBALL EVENTS 2017

Date & host TBC
10th Asian Men Championship
11th Asian Women Championship

TBC 2nd SEA Cup - Indonesia

17 – 22 June 2017 6th East Asia Cup Women – Hirosaki City, Japan

7 – 16 July 2017 XV Men Softball World Championship – Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada 24 – 30 July 2017 XII Junior Women Softball World Championship – Clearwater, USA

CONCLUSION

Softball Confederation Asia records our sincere appreciation to all SCA affiliate-members and their respective officials/affiliates who have helped and supported in ensuring the success of SCA's programs and events, in particular Chinese Taipei, Singapore and Thailand who hosted the SCA competitions and events. We are happy to report that all our SCA affiliate-members are active, each having participated in at least one SCA event over the past 4 years.

We further thank Mizuno for their generous contribution and sponsorship, President Pan Yi Chuan and Japan Softball Association for their financial contribution towards the running of the SCA Administration and Congress, and all other sponsors, individuals and organisations that have supported SCA directly and indirectly.

SCA thanks our affiliates who participated actively in our campaign for inclusion onto the Olympic program, and the successful inclusion of Softball & Baseball into Tokyo 2020 is a great boost and encouragement to the softball family in Asia.

We hope that all SCA affiliate-members will continue with the Asian unity and harmony, helping each other in promoting and developing softball in Asia effectively.

Report approved by: PAN Yi Chuan SCA President

Prepared by: Ms. Sally LIM Swee Gaik, SCA Secretary-General

1 December 2016