

IBAF - International Baseball Federation (historical)



Various forms of bat-and-ball games are known from medieval Europe and ancient Egypt. However, it is difficult to say what the origins of Baseball are exactly. Often the birth of modern Baseball sport is referred to this event: A game between the New York Knickerbockers

and the New York Nine organized in 1846 and played under the rules of the surveyor Alexander Cartwright, which are still largely valid.

In August 1938, the first baseball World Cup was organized in London. The only two participants Great Britain and the United States played a total of five games. Once the **International Baseball Federation** (at that time abbreviated as **IBF**) was founded. In 1944, at the congress in Caracas, the name was changed in **Federacion Internacional de Béisbol Amateur (FIBA)**.

As in 1969, the United States after 26 years of absence, 1970 first-ever European and 1972 Asian teams took part at the World Cup, the FIBA really seemed to have become a world federation. In 1973 there came a setback. Disagreements and especially political influences led to the split. During the Intercontinental Cup in Bologna, a second organization, the **Federación Mundial de Béisbol Amateur (FEMBA)** was founded under presidency of William P. Fehring (USA). Soon the differences could be resolved. On Jan 04, 1976, the organizations joined to become the **Asociación de Béisbol Internacional Amateur (AINBA)**. In 1984, the Congress decided to translate the official name into English: **International Baseball Association (IBA)**.

At the extraordinary congress on Sep 21, 1996, a large majority of delegates decided to allow professionals to take part in competitions of the IBA in the future. In 1999, contracts were signed with Major League Baseball and the players' union, which paved the way for the participation of the MLB players in the Olympics in 2000.

At the congress in Sydney in 1999, the federation returned to its roots and called back to **International Baseball Federation (IBAF)**.

In 2013, the IBAF had 124 member federations.

To improve their chance of returning into the Olympic program, IBAF and ISF (International Softball Federation) began talks about a unification process in 2011. This process ended 2014 with the inaugural congress of the new association **World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC)**.

Presidents

IBF

18.08.1938 - 06.10.1940

06.10.1940 - 17.11.1944

Jaime Mariné CUB

FIBA

17.11.1944 - 18.12.1945

Jorge Reyes MEX

18.12.1945 - 20.12.1947

Pablo Morales VEN

20.12.1947 - 14.12.1950

Chale Pereira Ocampo NCA

14.12.1950 - 26.09.1952

Pablo Morales VEN

26.09.1952 - 26.09.1969

Carlos M. Zecca CRC

26.09.1969 - 04.01.1976

Juan Isa AHO

FEMBA

08.09.1973 - 31.08.1975

William P. Fehring USA

31.08.1975 - 04.01.1976

Carlos J. García NCA

AINBA

04.01.1976 - 05.09.1980

Manuel González Guerra CUB

05.09.1980 - 28.10.1984

Robert E. Smith USA

IBA

28.10.1984 - 21.06.1993

Robert E. Smith USA

21.06.1993 - 02.11.1999

Aldo Notari ITA

IBAF

02.11.1999 - 25.07.2006 †

Aldo Notari ITA

25.07.2006 - 02.03.2007

Tom C.H. Peng TPE, acting

02.03.2007 - 06.12.2009

Harvey Wallace Schiller USA

06.12.2009 - 14.05.2014

Riccardo Fraccari ITA

Secretaries General

IBF

18.08.1938 - 06.10.1940

Leslie Mann USA

06.10.1940 - 17.11.1944

Laureano Prado Clark CUB

FIBA

17.11.1944 - 20.12.1947

Gustavo de la Torre MEX

20.12.1947 - 12.12.1948

Ernesto Ruiz Morales NCA

12.12.1948 - 26.09.1952

Eugenio Ramirez Osantes MEX

26.09.1952 - ?? .09.1959

Victor Hugo Lucha ESA

???.09.1959 - 04.01.1976 Manuel González Guerra CUB

AINBA

04.01.1976 - ???.?.19?? Miguel Oropeza MEX

???.?.19?? - 16.08.1981 ???

16.08.1981 - 28.10.1984 Casper Pielak CAN

IBA

28.10.1984 - 21.06.1993 Casper Pielak CAN

21.06.1993 - 30.07.1997 Richard W. Case USA

30.07.1997 - 02.11.1999 John C. Ostermeyer AUS

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02.11.1999 - 05.05.2001 John C. Ostermeyer AUS

05.05.2001 - 18.08.2007 Eduardo de Bello PAN

18.08.2007 - 06.12.2009 John C. Ostermeyer AUS

06.12.2009 - 14.05.2014 Israel Roldan PUR

Player of the Year	
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	Men	Women
2004	Chris OXSPRING AUS	Laura BRENNEMAN USA
2005	Eduardo PARET CUB	<i>not awarded</i>
2006 - 2008	<i>not awarded</i>	<i>not awarded</i>
2009	Justin SMOAK USA	<i>not awarded</i>
2010	Hector A. OLIVERA CUB	Ayako ROKKAKU JPN
2011	Curt SMITH NED	<i>not awarded</i>
2012	Jimmy VAN OSTRAND CAN	Yukari ISOZAKI JPN
2013	<i>not awarded</i>	<i>not awarded</i>
2014	see WBSC awards	---