



WORLD  
CHILDREN'S  
BASEBALL  
FAIR

**Information Summary**  
**30<sup>th</sup> annual**  
**World Children's Baseball Fair 2024**  
**Fukuoka, Japan**

## **2024 - Fukuoka**

### **I. OBJECTIVE:**

- (1) The World Children's Baseball Fair (WCBF) is held annually to promote worldwide baseball expansion, and at the same time, to provide a tool for international exchange among people from different nations around the world.
- (2) During the WCBF event, children will have opportunity to learn the BASIC SKILLS of baseball, with emphasis on fun, participation, teamwork and friendship. This is a time for the children to enjoy and share their love of baseball and learn worldwide cultures.
- (3) The participants will attend morning baseball clinics instructed by coaches who are selected by the World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC).
- (4) Each afternoon and evening, participants partake in cultural and recreational activities to further enhance cultural understanding and appreciation.
- (5) For this year only, the children will be divided into nine cities for a few days. They will participate in baseball clinics and stay with host families.
- (6) Participants will be asked to perform something to introduce their respective country to the fair, such as singing, dancing or playing musical instruments at the farewell party. There will also be formal Opening and Closing Ceremonies.

## **II. EVENT OUTLINE:**

- (1) Hosted by:  
The World Children's Baseball Foundation, Fukuoka Prefecture, and the Japan Amateur Baseball Association.
- (2) Associated with: World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC)
- (3) Date: Sunday, July 28 – Monday, August 5, 2024
- (4) Main Location: Baseball clinics and International Exchange games are to be held in Onojo City  
(Children participating in the baseball clinics will not be attending the Games.)
- (5) Children's Main Dormitory: Learning Inn Fukuoka (in Onojo city)  
Home Stay: 9 city and town (We will contact you when the children's homestay is confirmed.)
- (6) Participating Countries/Regions: Fourteen (14) including Japan  
(We will inform you the names of countries/regions after confirming attendance of every country.)

## **III. PARTICIPANTS' (CHILDREN) QUALIFICATIONS:**

- (1) Passport: Participants must have valid passport with nationality of the country invited.
- (2) Children's Age Requirement: Child participants MUST be 10 or 11 years old as of July 27, 2024. That is, their birth date must be between July 28, 2012 and July 27, 2014.
- (3) The WCBF event week lasts ten days which requires stamina and endurance. Thus, all participants must be in good health.
- (4) Number of participants: Each federation will send **five children**, unless otherwise specified. It is recommended that one or two of the five children be female. Children who have attended the WCBF in the past are not eligible to participate in the 2024 event.  
When you select children, please bear in mind that the WCBF is similar to a summer camp (shared accommodation, getting up early, attending baseball clinics, field trips, homestay etc.). For many children, this will be the first or perhaps the longest trip being apart from their parents for so long. While Japan

is a friendly country, this will still be a new cultural experience to most of the children. All children will be expected to follow strict rules and must treat their respective chaperones and hosts with the respect of their own parents/guardians. Please be selective of participants, ones who are adaptable to this type of environment and who have a positive character to learn baseball.

#### **IV. SELECTION OF CHAPERONE :**

A chaperone (not a parent of participating children) must be chosen to accompany the children on behalf of your federation.

It would be highly appreciated if you could select a chaperone formed the past fair's participants.

The chaperone **MUST be an adult (over 21 years of age), and MUST BE FLUENT IN ENGLISH.** He/she should have experience in dealing with groups of children of this age and be able to properly discipline children when necessary. Also, he/she should have good knowledge of baseball.

Each chaperone will be expected to provide child supervision at all times. They eat and sleep together with the children (children of a different gender from that of the chaperone will actually sleep in a different room, and will be supervised by a chaperone or a host of the same gender as the child who is approved by your chaperone) and must enforce the rules and regulations set by the host Committee. Each chaperone will be assigned to a group at the baseball clinics to help out in translation and to help the coaches instruct the children.

Chaperones will not participate in the homestay program, but will spend several days in 9 cities and towns.

Although the gender of the chaperone does not matter, we recommend that the chaperone be male if your federation sends 4 or more male children. **We also ask that the chaperone NOT be a parent or relative of the child participant(s).**

Please read the attachment entitled "**PREREQUISITES FOR CHOOSING A CHAPERONE**" before making your selection.

**\*Chaperone is required to submit a RESUME (in any form) which briefly tells their baseball career and job history to WCBF upon being selected.**

**V. EXPENSES :**

- (1) All costs associated with children and chaperones participating in the 2024 WCBF event will be paid for by WCBF, unless otherwise stipulated. These expenses include airfares, airport taxes, accommodation, meals, local transportations, equipment, uniforms, recreational activities, travel insurance, etc.
- (2) WCBF is NOT responsible for travel to and from the participants' homes and their local airport.
- (3) WCBF is NOT responsible for any fees regarding the acquisition of passports and visas for the participants.

**VI. REGISTRATION PROCEDURES:**

FORM A/B/C/D/E/F: Fill out CLEARLY or type out all forms accurately & completely. Contact the following person if you have any questions.

<b>FORM</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>DUE DATE:</b>
A	Confirmation of Participation	Feb. 16, 2024
B	Name of Participants	Mar. 25, 2024
C	Participants' Information	Mar. 25, 2024
D, E	Medical Consent	Mar. 25, 2024
F	Ticket & Airport Information	Mar. 25, 2024
	Passport copy	Mar. 30, 2024
	Essay & Photo (Passport Size)	Mar. 30, 2024

**To: Fumiko Kusumi**  
**Directing Manager**  
**World Children's Baseball Foundation**  
**Kobayashi Bldg. 2F**  
**4-2-10 Kudan Minami, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0074**  
**JAPAN**  
Phone : (+813) 5212-4466 Fax : (+813) 5212-1189  
E-mail : wcbf@wcbf.or.jp

***NOTES : Failure to meet the deadlines will be interpreted as declining to participate in the WCBF 2024, and another country on the waiting list will be contacted immediately.***

### **Medical Consent Forms (D/E) :**

Travel/health and liability insurance for the children and chaperone will be supplied by WCBF.

Each child's parent or guardian must sign the Medical Consent Form that will allow the child to receive treatment in Japan if the need arises. The medical history of each participant must be completed (at the second half of Form D & E). If your children require medication, please ensure that they bring a sufficient quantity for the duration of WCBF. The chaperone will be responsible for administering any medicine that is needed for the children.

Each chaperone must sign the Medical Consent Form E in order to receive medical treatment in Japan if required.

This information will also be shared with your host family.

### **Passports / Visas :**

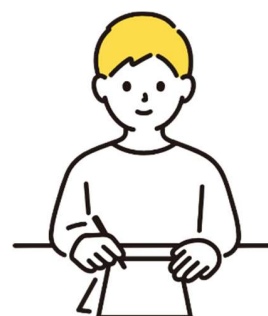
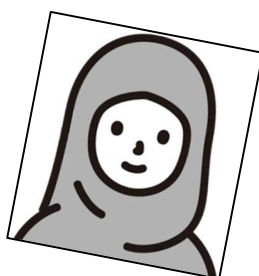
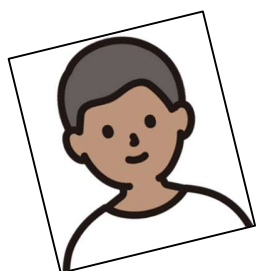
A copy of each participant's passport must be sent for ticket booking. If you require more time than the deadline, be sure to send in the above forms on time, and contact the WCBF office regarding permission for an extension (for passports only).

Your federation must make all the necessary arrangements for passport / visa processing. In the case that you require an official letter of invitation and other supporting document to obtain the necessary visa (Japanese or transit) for the participants, we will prepare and address it to you **in June**.

### **Photo and Essay :**

All the participants and the chaperon are required to submit a photograph of their own (passport size) to be used for the photo-book that they receive during the fair, and an essay prior to attending the fair.

The essay should tell what they would like to experience during the fair in Japan. The chaperone must write it in English. If children write it in another language besides English, it will have to be translated to English by the chaperone. Also, the children will be asked to write an essay after the fair and the chaperone a report of the fair.



## **VII. PERSONAL BELONGINGS:**

- (1) In addition to their travel clothes, each participant should bring 1 pair of running shoes (sneakers), leisure clothes, a light jacket, underwear, socks, towels, and toiletries. (Free laundry service will be provided during the fair.)
- (2) All clothing and belongings should be marked with the participant's name.
- (3) Use a large suitcase for these items. Any extra room will be helpful when the participants return home, as they will be leaving with much more than what they brought. It is strongly recommended that each participant check-in only one piece of luggage on their trip to Japan.
- (4) The children will receive baseball equipment and a big bag to carry them as gifts. The bag must be checked at the airport on their trip home, which will count as their second allowed piece of checked luggage. **WCBF will not be responsible for the cost of excess baggage or shipping of goods.**

**\* More detailed information will be provided later.**

## **VIII. EQUIPMENT:**

- (1) WCBF will provide each child participant the following items as gifts:

Baseball uniform	
Baseball undershirt	Baseball bat
Baseball belt	Baseball glove
Baseball stockings/stirrups	Baseball cap
Baseball socks	Baseball helmet
Baseball cleats	Baseball bag
WCBF T-shirts	Shorts

**In order to provide proper sizing, etc., it is extremely important that the Form C be sent in on time!**

**VX. OTHERS:**

- (1) Airline tickets will be arranged and sent to the address on Form F at least a few weeks before the actual departure date for the Fair.  
Please use Form F to let us know where you would like the tickets to be sent.  
(Normally, **e-ticket**, instead of printed tickets, will be sent via e-mail.)
  
- (2) If the participants have dietary restrictions because of religious and other reasons, please so describe in detail in writing. (Form D/E)

## **PREREQUISITES FOR CHOOSING A CHAPERONE**

### **A chaperone should:**

- Be an adult (over 21 years of age).
- Have experience dealing with groups of children of this age.
- NOT be a parent or relative of a participating child.
- Be able to discipline a child when necessary.
- **SPEAK ENGLISH FLUENTLY**  
(He / She will be requested to submit a report in English to us after the fair.)
- Have good knowledge and interest in baseball.

\*While gender does not matter, it is recommended that the chaperone be male if your federation is planning on sending 4 or more male children.

### **Duties and responsibilities of all chaperones:**

- Ensure that the children behave and follow all instructions.
- Ensure that the children are never left alone to wander around unsupervised.
- Ensure that the children get enough rest/sleep.
- Be aware of each child's medical history and be able to administer any medicine that is required.
- Ensure that the children's personal items (passports, money, etc.) are safe.
- Ensure that there is a name tag on each item that the child has brought with him/her, or received.
- Beware that they will be working with WBSC coaches during the clinics and will be asked to teach children from countries other than their own.