



WBSC

WORLD
BASEBALL SOFTBALL
CONFEDERATION

Game Time!

**Executive Board Meetings
Essential Decisions
2020**

1. 12th Meeting held (online) on 24 March 2020 of WBSC Executive Board (EB) combined with the Boards of the Baseball and Softball Divisions

- 1.1 WBSC President Address:
- 1.1.1 The International Olympic Committee's (IOC) in discussion with Tokyo 2020 Olympics Local Organising Committee and Japan Government to review the postponement of the Tokyo 2020 Olympics due to the global Covid-19 pandemic.
 - 1.1.2 WBSC stands in unison with Governments and healthy authorities globally in the fight to contain the spread of Covid-19 infections.
 - 1.1.3 The need for WBSC to adapt and adopt to face the unprecedented and unpredictable challenges caused by the pandemic.
 - 1.1.4 WBSC will be analysing and reviewing its sports calendar of tournaments and events, and to discuss with the Continental Associations to understand each situation better.
- 1.2 The EB Members gave a brief overview of the pandemic situation in each of his/her country/territory.

2. 13th Meeting held (online) on 11 Jun 2020 of the WBSC Executive Board (EB) combined with the Boards of the Baseball and Softball Divisions

- 2.1 The approval of the Minutes of the following meetings:
- 2.1.1 11th WBSC EB Meeting held on 19 November 2019 in Sakai, Japan.
 - 2.1.2 12th WBSC EB Meeting held on 24 March 2020 (online).
 - 2.1.3 WBSC Videoconference Meeting with the Continental Associations held on 31 March 2020.
- 2.2 WBSC Presidents Address:
- 2.2.1 The postponement of the Tokyo Olympic 2020 to 2021 and WBSC World Cups and events scheduled for 2020 due to the global Covid-19 pandemic.
 - 2.2.2 The availability of the Swiss Government's interest-free loan and IOC's contribution to help WBSC tide over its cash-flow due to the postponement of WBSC tournaments and events, which affected WBSC's broadcasting revenue and sponsorship funding.
 - 2.2.3 The formation of 2 groups, comprising of representatives from the Continental Associations, to analyse and review WBSC's events and calendar due to challenges posed by the global pandemic and cuts in funding for national sports federations.
 - 2.2.4 WBSC embracing new forms of communication and seeing increased social media following.
- 2.3 The report on the roll-out of WBSC's Governance Survey and Questionnaire project to the Continental Associations.
- 2.4 The report on the roll-out and success of the 1st Baseball5 webinar for Africa continent in May – June 2020.
- 2.5 Discussion on a revised WBSC Baseball and Softball Calendars for 2020 – 2021, with the postponement of many tournaments and events.
- 2.6 Report on the WBSCs efforts for the inclusion of Men's Baseball, as well as Men and Women Softball in the Pan American Games Chile 2023.
- 2.7 A report on the development of e-Games for WBSC.
- 2.8 Discussion on the draft WBSC working budget for 2020 and the delay in the finalisation and audit of the 2019 statement of accounts due to the uncertainties posed by the global pandemic.

- 2.9 Discussion on the proposal for the postponement of the WBSC Congress from 2021 to 2022 due to the postponement of the Tokyo Olympics and the global pandemic.
- 2.10 The approval of the Tonga Baseball Softball Federation as a provisional Ordinary Member of WBSC, pending endorsement at WBSC Congress.

3. 14th Meeting held (online) on 14 August 2020 of the WBSC Executive Board (EB) combined with the Boards of the Baseball and Softball Divisions

- 3.1 The approval of the Minutes of the 13th WBSC EB Meeting held (online) on 24 March 2020.
- 3.2 WBSC Presidents Address:
 - 3.2.1 WBSC working closely with the Continental Associations as regards the many challenges posed by the global Covid-19 pandemic.
 - 3.2.2 WBSC taking the opportunity with time to review the WBSC Structure and formulating a new WBSC Strategic Plan 2021-2025.
 - 3.2.3 WBSC in discussion with various parties and stakeholders to organise tournaments and events under a “bubble” system to safeguard athletes, officials and other participants.
 - 3.2.4 WBSC in contact with the IOC Sports Department on changes to be made and consequences arising from the postponed Tokyo 2020 Olympics.
- 3.3 The confirmation of the new dates for Men Baseball and Women Softball in the Tokyo 2020 Olympics:
 - 3.3.1 Women Softball: 22 – 28 July 2021.
 - 3.3.2 Men Baseball: 29 July – 08 August 2021.
- 3.4 Discussion on a further revised WBSC Baseball and Softball Calendars for 2020 – 2021, in view of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, with further postponement of tournaments and events to 2021 and 2022, including the following. This was in particular due to postponement of continental qualifiers which could not be held to determine the continental teams eligible to participate in the WBSC World Cups.
 - 3.4.1 Americas Baseball Olympic Qualifier.
 - 3.4.2 Final Baseball Olympic Qualifier.
 - 3.4.3 U15 Men Baseball World Cup.
 - 3.4.4 Women Baseball World Cup.
 - 3.4.5 U18 Women Softball World Cup.
 - 3.4.6 U23 Men Baseball World Cup.
 - 3.4.7 Baseball5 World Cups (Open & Youth categories).
 - 3.4.8 Men Softball World Cup
 - 3.4.9 World Baseball Classic.
 - 3.4.10 U15 Women Softball World Cup (1st edition to be in 2023).
 - 3.4.11 Women Softball World Cup (next edition to be in 2023).
 - 3.4.12 U23 Men Softball World Cup.
 - 3.4.13 U12 Mixed Gender Softball World Cup.
- 3.5 The postponement of the Youth Olympic Games in Dakar from 2022 to 2026 – the IOC has included Baseball5 onto its sports programme.
- 3.6 The approval of the establishment of the 2 Working Groups, 1 for Baseball and 1 for Softball, to analyse and review the respective calendars, formats of tournaments, number of participating teams, and other related matters, and make recommendations for the EB’s consideration and approval.

- 3.7 The approval of a resolution to be sent to WBSC Members to seek approval for the postponement of the WBSC Congress from 2021 to 2022, which is to be held in Taipei, hosted by Chinese Taipei Baseball.
- 3.8 A report and update on the WBSC webinars available.
- 3.9 A report, with consensus for WBSC Members to support the “Virtual Youth Festival” project launched by AIMS (Alliance of Independent Recognised Members).
- 3.10 A report from Softball Asia on its 2 projects, namely, the “Softball Challenge” and “Coaching Webinars”.
- 3.11 A report on the WBSC new Headquarters “Home-base”:
 - 3.11.1 The purchase and renovation works were completed.
 - 3.11.2 The purchase was a long-term investment for WBSC in lieu of, and long-term saving from, rental of premises.
 - 3.11.3 The WBSC staff have moved into the new premises.
 - 3.11.4 The IOC President Thomas Bach attended the inauguration of the premises.
- 3.12 The approval of the following:
 - 3.12.1 The provisional statement of accounts for the year 2019, pending final audit.
 - 3.12.2 The provisional budget for 2020.
- 3.13 The approval of the following applications as regards membership of the WBSC:
 - 3.13.1 The cancellation of the current memberships of both the separate National Federations of Bulgaria Baseball and Bulgaria Softball with immediate effect.
 - 3.13.2 The approval of Bulgaria Baseball Softball Federation as a provisional Ordinary Member of WBSC, pending endorsement at WBSC Congress.
- 3.14 The proposal by European Softball Federation for a WBSC Slow-pitch World Cup was noted, and to be discussed at the Softball Review Working Group.

4. 15th Meeting held (online) on 09 December 2020 of the WBSC Executive Board (EB) combined with the Boards of the Baseball and Softball Divisions

- 4.1 The approval of the Minutes of the 14th WBSC EB Meeting held (online) on 27 August 2020.
- 4.2 WBSC Presidents Address:
 - 4.2.1 The organisers and other stakeholders were looking into the implementation of the “bubble” system for the U15 Men Baseball and Women Baseball World Cups scheduled to be held in Mexico in March 2021.
 - 4.2.2 The implementation of a more defined and efficient WBSC structure, with more defined and specific departments, duties and responsibilities.
 - 4.2.3 Discussions with IOC on further changes to be made for the postponed Tokyo2020 Olympics.
- 4.3 The approval of the new WBSC Strategic Plan and Structure.
 - 4.3.1 8 strategic goals.
 - 4.3.2 9 departments and 1 Integrity Unit. Each department with a liaison head, to be supported by staff.
 - 4.3.3 Formalisation of Continental Liaisons.

- 4.4 The approval for the establishment of the WBSC Integrity Unit as a Commission of the WBSC under Article 18.1 of the WBSC Statutes, with its Chair Secretary General Ms. Beng Choo Low, to empower and enable it to proceed with its work and responsibilities, with the matter to be tabled at the next WBSC Congress for endorsement.
 - 4.4.1 The Integrity Unit to work with the Legal Commission to draft the WBSC Integrity Code, and related rules and regulations.
- 4.5 The respective reports and recommendations of the 2 Review Working Groups (1 for Baseball and 1 for Softball) were tabled for discussion and the decision of the EB was deferred (and to be confirmed by emails) so as to give the EB Members more to consider them.
- 4.6 A report on the protocols for the proposed “bubble” system to be implemented for a tournament.
- 4.7 A report and update on the revised Baseball5 World Cups as follows:
 - 4.7.1 2022 Baseball5 (Open) World Cup (2024, etc., every 2 years on even years).
 - 4.7.2 2023 Baseball5 (Youth) World Cup (2025, etc., every 2 years on odd years) (Youth 14 – 18 years old).
- 4.8 Continental Associations requested to make efforts for the inclusion of Baseball5 in continental/regional multi-sports Games.
- 4.9 A report and update on the WBSC Academy:
 - 4.9.1 The need
 - 4.9.2 Baseball5 and Coaching (Grassroot-level) webinars uploaded and available.
 - 4.9.3 Videos and webinars on other subject matters, such as umpiring, scoring and administration being developed.
- 4.10 The approval for the formal adoption of all disciplines of the sport of Baseball and Softball, including Baseball5 and e-Games/e-Sports, and all para-disciplines and para-events.
- 4.11 The approval of the WBSC Anti-Doping Rules 2021.
- 4.12 The approval of the audited statement of accounts for the year 2019.
- 4.13 The approval of the following applications as regards membership of the WBSC:
 - 4.13.1 The approval of Cape Verde Baseball Softball Federation as a provisional Ordinary Member of WBSC, pending endorsement at WBSC Congress.
 - 4.13.2 The approval of Association for Baseball for the Blind as an Associate Member of WBSC.
