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Singh Tribhuvan Jogendra
Research Scholar (Doctor of
Philosophy in the Faculty of
Sports), Indira Gandhi TMS
University, Ziro, Arunachal
Pradesh, India

Dr. Sandeep Bhalla
Director - Sports & Physical
Education Department, Indira
Gandhi TMS University, Ziro,
Arunachal Pradesh, India

Amateur baseball federation of India: An overview

Singh Tribhuvan Jogendra and Dr. Sandeep Bhalla

Abstract

Baseball has unlimited scope to be lucrative in India. Amateur Baseball Federation of India (ABFI) is a non-profit organisation that works primarily in the domain of Sports. Its primary office is in Solan, Himachal Pradesh. The Federation was established in December 1983 with an object to promote this game. On 11th December 1983, some Baseball lovers from Delhi, Manipur, Haryana, Gujarat, M.P and West Bengal met at Rohtak (Haryana) and agreed to form a baseball federation to promote baseball game throughout the country. The Baseball Leaders also agreed that the Federation should become a member of Asian baseball Federation and International Baseball Association. ABFI was approved as a member of BFA on 19th Jan 1985 at Seoul. Indian Olympic Association also recognized Amateur Baseball Federation of India. First National Baseball Championship was organized by Baseball Association, Delhi from 25th Feb to 28th Feb 1985 at New Delhi. The Federation also introduced this game for women. ABFI was deeply grateful to BFA for providing the Baseball equipment. The Federation is determined to promote Baseball game throughout the country. At present 26 States/UT are the affiliated member of the Federation. The federation has organized 30 Senior National Baseball Championship, 25 Junior National Championship, 24 Sub-junior National Championship, apart from 13 National Little League Tournament between 11-13 years age group. The Indian team won Bronze medal in 1995 & Silver medal in 1999 in the Asian Cup Baseball championship at Internationals Level. Indian team also participated in "AA" and "AAA" Championship held at Seoul and Taiwan in which Indian team performance was appreciable. The federation has been sending participants under 11 years in the world children Baseball Fair on the invitation from WCBF. The Indian woman team recently participated in 3rd woman world cup at Matsuyama, Japan in 2008. The Baseball game has been included in the school game by the School Games Federation of India since 1998. The Federation succeeded to introduced Baseball game at Grass Route Level. Sports Authority of India has introduced certificate course for Baseball Coaches at NIS Patiala. ABFI's most urgent task is to make Baseball tremendously popular in India. The Federation will do its level best to achieve the goal.

Keywords: Baseball, amateur baseball federation of India (ABFI), national baseball championship, Asian cup baseball championship, school games federation of India

Introduction

Although it is clear that modern baseball developed in North America, the exact origin of the game is difficult to determine. Most scholars believe that baseball evolved from a variety of similar games that have been played for centuries. A popular legend claims that Abner Doubleday, who became a Union officer in the American Civil War (1861-1865), invented baseball in Cooperstown, New York, in 1839. Although there is little support for this story, the Baseball Hall of Fame Museum is located there because of it. There is evidence that people played games involving a stick and a ball since the early days of civilization. Ancient cultures in Persia, Egypt, and Greece played stick-and-ball games for recreation and as part of certain ceremonies. Games of this type had spread throughout Europe by the Middle Ages and became popular in a variety of forms. Europeans brought stick-and-ball games to the American colonies as early as the 1600s. They were widely considered children's games, however, through the 1700s. By the early 1800s, a variety of stick-and-ball games had become popular in North America. Most of these games originated in England. Many people in north-eastern cities such as Boston, New York, and Philadelphia played cricket. However, an English game called rounders, which was eventually played in rural and urban communities throughout North America, most resembled modern baseball. Rounders called for a batter to strike a ball and run around bases without being put out. Balls that were caught in the air, or in some cases after one bounce, were commonly outs. Rounders also involved the practice of plugging, in which fielders could put runners out by throwing the ball at them as they ran between bases. The rules of rounders varied widely from place to place, and people used various names to describe it, including town ball, one o' cat, and, eventually, baseball.

Corresponding Author:
Singh Tribhuvan Jogendra
Research Scholar (Doctor of
Philosophy in the Faculty of
Sports), Indira Gandhi TMS
University, Ziro, Arunachal
Pradesh, India

Baseball around the World

Baseball, which is now an Olympic sport, is played in many other countries, especially in Latin America (particularly Cuba), Europe, and Japan where it has a huge following. It was first introduced to Japan by an American, Horace Wilson, in 1872. The professional game has existed for some 50 years. There are two leagues, Central and Pacific, and a total of 12 teams. American clubs often tour Japan at the close of the regular season. At school and university level, it is extremely popular. Each summer 4,000 secondary schools take part in the All-Japan Baseball Tournament, which is held near the city of Osaka. And it is played in India too.

Amateur Baseball Federation of India

Baseball game was introduced in our country by the Amateur Baseball Federation of India. The Federation was established in December 1983 with an object to promote this game. On 11th December 1983, some Baseball lovers from Delhi, Manipur, Haryana, Gujarat, M.P and West Bengal met at Rohtak (Haryana) and agreed to form a baseball federation to promote baseball game throughout the country. The Baseball Leaders also agreed that the Federation should become a member of Asian baseball Federation and International Baseball Association. The leading persons at that time were Mr.P.C. Bhardwaj (Delhi) and Mr. E.Bijoy Singh (Manipur). Mr.P.C.Bhardwaj (Delhi) was appointed as Hony. Secretary and given responsibility to approach Asian and International Baseball Authority for membership. On 16th Sept. 1984, a seminar was organized to discuss the basic bylaws and to hold the 1st National Baseball Championship to popularize this game, An application was moved to International Baseball Association for Affiliation. An extraordinary Congress and 13th Baseball Asia Championship Series was to be held from 19th Jan. 1985 to 31 Jan. 1985 at Perth (Australia). Mr.P.C Bhardwaj Hony. Secretary A.B.F.I Attended the 13th Asian Baseball Championship Series at Perth. ABFI was approved as a member of B.F.A on 19th Jan 1985 at Seoul. Indian Olympic Association also recognized Amateur Baseball Federation of India. First National Baseball Championship was organized by Baseball Association, Delhi from 25th Feb to 28th Feb 1985 at New Delhi. The Federation also introduced this game for women. A.B.F.I was deeply grateful to B.F.A for providing the Baseball equipment. The Federation is determined to promote Baseball game throughout the country. At present 26 States/UT are the affiliated member of the Federation. The federation has organized 24 Senior National Baseball Championship, 21 Junior National Championship, 19 Sub-junior National Championship, apart from 11 National Little League Tournament between 11-13 years age group. The Indian team won Bronze medal in 1995 & Silver medal in 1999 in the Asian Cup Baseball championship at Internationals Level. Indian team also participated in "AA" and "AAA" Championship held at Seoul and Taiwan in which Indian team performance was appreciable. The federation has been sending participants under 11 years in the world children Baseball Fair on the invitation from WCBF. The Indian woman team recently participated in 3rd woman world cup at Matsuyama, Japan in 2008. The Baseball game has been included in the school game by the School Games Federation of India since 1998. The Federation succeeded to introduced Baseball game at Grass Route Level. Sports

Authority of India has introduced certificate course for Baseball Coaches at N.I.S Patiala. A.B.F.I.'s most urgent task is to make Baseball Tremendously popular in India. The Federation will do its level best to achieve the goal

Baseball in India

The Amateur Baseball Federation of India was formed in Dec 1983. ^[1] First National Baseball Championship was organized in Feb 1985 at New Delhi. The Federation was affiliated with the Baseball Federation of Asia & International Baseball Federation in 1985. The Federation was recognized by National Federation by the Ministry of Y/A & Sports, Govt. of India in 1991. The Indian team participated in the Asian Baseball Championship in 1987 at Tokyo & in 1989 Seoul. The Indian Baseball team won the Bronze Medal in 1st Asian cup Baseball Championship in 1995 held at Manila, Philippines. The Federation organized 3rd Asian Cup Baseball Championship in 1999 at Chandigarh and got Silver Medal. The Federation has sent baseball team 11yr, 15 yr. & 17 yr. in the Asian Baseball Championship held at Tokyo, Seoul and Taipei in which Indian team performed well. Baseball was introduced in School National Games in 1999 by School Games Federation of India. The Federation was recognized by Indian Olympic association in 2002. SAI Introduced Certificate Course for baseball in NIS in 2003. Baseball Clinic was conducted by MLB coaches at Chandigarh in 2006; with Chennai and Hyderabad in 2007. 26 States have affiliated themselves and have Associations to its credit ^[2].

List of Affiliated Baseball Association of Amateur Baseball Federation in India

1. Assam Baseball Association,

C/o Sultana Rahman, Rahman Building (2nd flr.)
Opp. Rhino Club, Ashram Road
South Sarania, Ulubari, Guwahati-7
ashma5asm@yahoo.co.in

2. Andhra Pradesh Baseball Association

56-6-7/1, Koneru Sridhar Street,
High School Road, Patamata,
Vijaywada-10.
baseballassociationofap@gmail.com

3. Baseball Association of Bihar

Guru Niwas,
Kun kun Singh lane,
Patna 800006, Bihar.
ansbca@gmail.com

4. Baseball Association Chandigarh

H.No.923, Sector – 7, Chandigarh.

5. Chhattisgarh Baseball Association

H.No. 243 Ward No.-38
Hemu Nagar, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh.
cgabaseball@gmail.com

6. Baseball Association Delhi

B-IV/317B, Keshav Puram,
New Delhi-110035.
abfibaseball@yahoo.co.in

7. Amateur Baseball Federation of India

2, Durga Apartments,
Luis Miranda Road,
Margao – Goa – 403601.
ramakantangle@rediffmail.com

8. Gujrat State Baseball Association

818/331, Laxmi Pura,
O/S Raipur Gate, Near Ankur Mills,
Ahmedabad – 380002.
jkkhodadhra@yahoo.com

9. H.P. Baseball Association

Saroj Hosier, Chamba Ghat,
Solan – 173213
sudhirmohindru@gmail.com

10. Haryana Baseball Association

Opposite 191-L, Model Town,
Rohtak-124001.
balharaharsh@gmail.com

11. Jammu & Kashmir Baseball Association

Nizam Colony, Saida Kadal, Sri Nagar,
Sri Nagar, Kashmir – 190003 (J&K)
hussainfida27@yahoo.com

12. Jharkhand Baseball Association

R. M. C. H. Bariatu Birsa Blood Bank,
Ranchi – 834009.
v528913@gmail.com

13. Kerala Baseball Association

'Taas' TC 7/168/1,
Karithodu Lane, Kanji Ram Para P.O.
Thiruvananthapuram – 950030.
aruntsbaseball@gmail.com
krishnamurthymn19@gmail.com

14. Baseball Association of Karnataka

Mpee Enterprises, Sujata Complex,
2nd Floor, 1-Main Gandhi Nagar,
Bangalore-560007
kbaseball@gmail.com

15. Manipur Baseball Association

Yaiskul, Jamnasthan, Leikai, Imphal-795001.
achomindu@yahoo.com

16. M.P.A. Baseball Association

42, Shankar Bagh Colony,
Near Mari Mata Chowk, Indore – 452002.
meprakash22@yahoo.co.in

17. Maharashtra Baseball Association

6, Sangvi Chawl, New Maneklal
Estet, Narsi Mehata Road,
Near Dattamandir, Ghatkopar (west),
Mumbai 400086.
rikhankar@yahoo.com

18. Baseball Association of Odisha

Telenga Bazar, Cuttack – 753009 (Odisha)
pradhansibananda@yahoo.com

19. Baseball Association of Punjab

698, Model Gram,
Ludhiana – 141008
hkumar@ubmail.com

20. Amateur Baseball Association of Pondicherry

No. 12 First Cross, Kolas Nagar,
Pondicherry-605001.
elanko79@gmail.com

21. Rajasthan Baseball Association

Near Bus Stand,
Santar Road, Dhaulpur.
rajasthanbaseball@gmail.com

22. Tamil Nadu Baseball Association

No: 19, 3B, Quanta Ranjini apartments,
Rajarathinam Street, Kilpauk,
Chennai - 600010
tnba.chennai@yahoo.co.in

23. Baseball Association of Tripura

Sports Villa Dhaleswar, Road no. 8,
Agartala – 799001, Tripura.
tripura_state@rediffmail.com

24. Uttarakhand Baseball Association

Ajeet House, Bell Road, Clement town,
Dehradun-248002.
strongrana1954@gmail.com

25. U.P. State Baseball Association

Vedant College of Education,
Garhmukteshwar, Ghaziabad.
mdvedantgroups@gmail.com

26. Bengal Baseball Association

11/11 Kalicharan Ghosh Road,
Kolkata – 700050
jaharmumdas@hotmail.com

List of Affiliated Units Zone Wise**North Zone**

- Jammu & Kashmir
- Himachal Pradesh
- Punjab, Chandigarh
- Haryana

South Zone

- Andhra Pradesh
- Tamil Nadu
- Karnataka
- Pondicherry
- Kerala

Central Zone

- Delhi
- Uttar Pradesh
- Uttaranchal
- Rajasthan

West Zone

- Goa

- Gujrat
- Chhattisgarh
- Maharashtra
- Madhya Pradesh

East Zone

- Bihar
- West Bengal
- Orissa
- Jharkhand
- Manipur

North East Zone

- Assam
- Tripura
- Meghalaya

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