

Champs Chatter

The Official Newsletter Of The



Tuesday, July 9, 2013

Welcome

The tournament organizers, led by Chairperson Bryon Kosteroski are very proud to welcome you to this prestigious event. We are looking forward to seeing some of the best U21 men's softball in the world over the next six days.

Event Explained

This is one of few times you will see such a wide variety of teams in one event. We have provincial /Territorial teams from 9 different provinces as well as the North West Territories, with no Canadian club teams. We have a national Team from the country of Argentina as well as a New Zealand academy team made up of player from 10 different provinces formed within that country. This is the second time an event like this has been held, with the first being an U19 event in Charlottetown PEI four years ago. It was designed as a way to help profile men's softball in this country after it was deleted from the Canada Summer Games in 2005.

A Little About The Teams

Profiling the teams is a difficult task as none of them have played together in a meaningful competition. With a little research and some asking around I have got enough information to set up three categories to make things a little clearer for the fans.

The Favorites

I am sure there should be a lot of debate about this but based on the information out their Ontario, Alberta, Newfoundland, Argentina and ISA New Zealand best fit this category. Ontario is the defending champion from the U19 event in Charlottetown. They are very deep in men's softball and feature six players who represented Canada at the ISF World U21 Men's Softball Championship in Argentina last November. They include: **Cole Bolton** (Flinton) pitcher, **Taylor Brown** (Centreville), **Ty Sebastian** (Brussels) pitcher, **Adam Stuck** (Owen Sound), **Cody Werner** (Baden) and **Michael Lagace-Roote** (New Hamburg) who was the ace of the pitching staff. Alberta fits into this category as they will feature 5 team Canada players most of which come from a very seasoned Irma Tigers team that has done well nationally: **Brett Larson** (Irma), **Steven Normand** (Calgary) pitcher, **Taylor Schubada** (Irma), **Carson Soucy** (Irma) and **Ambrose Firkus** (Irma).

Argentina deserves to be called a favorite as they will have four players who were on the team that won the 2012 ISF World Jr (U20) Championship in Parana Argentina: pitchers **Huemul Mata Carabajal**, **Franco Gini**, **Roman Godoy**, as well as utility player **Teo Migliavacca**. They come to us following a highly successful six game tour in the United States. Newfoundland is the defending U21 Men's National Champion and is always a strong hitting team. They have 11 players returning from that team including all four pitchers. ISA New Zealand is an interesting team. After finishing fourth, in the last event they could have easily be pushed down the list. However with a pair of New Zealand U21 national teamers; **Ben Watts** pitcher, and **Tim Campbell** utility player and a country deep with softball talent, they belong in the upper tier.

The Hopefuls

Three teams fit into this category; Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia and British Columbia. Saskatchewan will have a strong defensive team that hits the ball well. However, they will need outstanding efforts from their 5 man pitching staff. The team will be led by Team Canada player **Aiden Patrick** and U21 Nationals All Stars **Anthony Climenhaga** and **Erik Tarnowski**. Nova Scotia won the bonze at the 2009 Men's International Championship and will feature Team Canada Pitcher **Cody Anthony** from Shubenacadie. British Columbia is a province with a long softball history and has traditionally produced some great men's teams. This team will be led by Team Canada player, **Brad Peck** from Surrey.

The Longshots

Champs Chatters' four long shots to win this tournament are Quebec, New Brunswick, North West Territories and Manitoba. New Brunswick is a virtual unknown to fans out west as they have not made a mark at nationals. NWT has the smallest pool from which to originally pick players but have added some good players as pick ups from other places. Like Quebec, Manitoba is also very young (average age is 19) with the core being part of the 2011 Western Canada Summer Games team. They are considered to be a highly skilled team with the majority of them competing as a team in the past 4 WCSG's.

Games Earlier today

Game one at 11:00 featured two of the pre tournament favorites Ontario and Alberta. Ontario pounded in 6 runs in the first four innings against Steven Normand and cruised to an 11-1 victory. One hour later at Gordie Howe New Zealand blew out Manitoba 16-1 and at 1:00 Argentina got off to a strong start with a 14-3 victory over British Columbia

Tonight's Matchups

The 6:30 game will feature the home squad Saskatchewan taking on Newfoundland. Both teams are playing their first games of the tournament. Saskatchewan hopes to get off to a great start so they can feed of what they hope will be a great crowd. Most of these players play their league game right here in this ball park and are looking forward to a home town support throughout this event. The 2012 U21 Men's National champions, Newfoundland is usually a crowd pleaser, as they are known for their offense. The late game will feature a pair of medalists from the 2009 Men's International Championships, the defending gold medalist Ontario and bronze winner Nova Scotia. Ontario is playing their second game as is Nova Scotia who played New Brunswick at 3:00PM.

The Pools



Al Anderson Source for Sports

(RED)

ONTARIO
ALBERTA
NEW ZEALAND
MANITOBA
NEW BRUNSWICK
NOVA SCOTIA

SASKATOON INN

HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTRE

Saskatoon Inn Hotel

(BLACK)

BRITISH COLUMBIA
SASKATCHEWAN
NORTH WEST TERRITORIES
NEW FOUNDLAND
QUEBEC
ARGENTINA

Preliminary Round Schedule

Softball Canada Wednesday / Mercredi de Softball Canada						
9	BVI	July 10	11:00 am	BC	VS	NWT
10	BVI	July 10	1:00 pm	AB	VS	NB
11	GH	July 10	2:00 pm	MB	VS	NS
12	BVI	July 10	3:00 pm	NL	VS	QC
13	GH	July 10	4:00 pm	NWT	VS	ARG
14	BVI	July 10	6:30 pm	BC	VS	SK
15	BVI	July 10	8:30 pm	ON	VS	NZL
Budget Car & Truck Rental Thursday / Jeudi de location de voiture et camion Budget						
16	BVI	July 11	11:00 am	AB	VS	NS
17	GH	July 11	12:00 pm	QC	VS	ARG
18	BVI	July 11	1:00 pm	BC	VS	NL
19	GH	July 11	2:00 pm	NZL	VS	NB
20	BVI	July 11	3:00 pm	SK	VS	NWT
21	GH	July 11	4:00 pm	ON	VS	MB
22	BVI	July 11	6:30 pm	NL	VS	ARG
23	BVI	July 11	8:30 pm	SK	VS	QC
Saskatoon Co-op Friday / Vendredi de la Co-op de Saskatoon						
24	BVI	July 12	11:00 am	MB	VS	NB
25	BVI	July 12	1:00 pm	AB	VS	NZL
26	GH	July 12	2:00 pm	BC	VS	QC
27	BVI	July 12	3:00 pm	ON	VS	NB
28	GH	July 12	4:00 pm	NWT	VS	NL
29	BVI	July 12	6:30 pm	NZL	VS	NS
30	BVI	July 12	8:30 pm	SK	VS	ARG

Your Umpires

Softball Canada Umpire in Chief

Doug Cundall - Ontario, Canada

Softball Canada Deputy Umpire in Chief

Brent Chadwick - Assiniboia, Saskatchewan

Brent Luebke - Brandon, Manitoba, Canada
Trent Kulbida - Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada
Keith Cook - Little Canada Minnesota, USA
Marcel Vallee - L'Île Perrot, Quebec, Canada
Doug Young - Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada
Dave Beaumont - Christchurch, New Zealand
Gord Macalpine - Edmonton Alberta, Canada
Mike Nalysnyk - Guelph, Ontario, Canada
Bob Clothier - Rosetown, Saskatchewan, Canada
Duane Bakken - Balgonie, Saskatchewan, Canada
Dan Young - North Delta, British Columbia,
Larry Tennant - Red Deer, Alberta, Canada