

Confederation of European Baseball

Martin Miller, President

Newsletter - December 2009



Riccardo Fraccari elected President of the IBAF

During the Congress of the International Baseball Federation on December 6th 2009 in Lausanne Mr. Riccardo Fraccari of Italy was elected President of the IBAF. Fraccari replaces outgoing President Dr. Harvey W. Schiller who has led the IBAF since taking over mid-term in 2007 for the late Aldo Notari.

The following new members of the IBAF's Executive Committee were also elected:

*President - Riccardo Fraccari, ITA
1st Vice President - Kazuhiro Tawa, JPN
2nd Vice President - Alonso Perez Gonzalez, MEX
3rd Vice President - Tony Castro, CUB
Secretary General - Israel Roldan, PUR
Treasurer - Rene Laforce, BEL
1st Member at Large - Paul Seiler, USA
2nd Member at Large - Tom Peng, TPE
3rd Member at Large - Luis Melero, ESP*

These members are in addition to the IBAF's Continental Vice Presidents (Presidents of continental federations):

*Africa - Ishola Williams, NGR
Americas - Eduardo De Bello, PAN
Asia - Seung-Kyoo Kang, KOR
Europe - Martin Miller, GER
Oceania - John Ostermeyer, AUS*



The CEB wants to honestly congratulate Riccardo Fraccari for his election to IBAF president. Europe will support him in his work in every possible way. Baseball is a team game, and we would not be successful in our efforts at any level if we were not working toward one goal - growing the game. We wish Riccardo all the best for his first four-years-term as head of world baseball. Much to our regrets this means that Riccardo will step down from his position as 1st Vice President of Europe, leaving a second open spot in the CEB Executive Committee after Gerard Vaandrager has resigned his position right after last year's elections. Both positions will have to be filled again during the upcoming CEB Congress in Stuttgart.

The CEB wants to also take the opportunity to thank outgoing President Dr. Harvey W. Schiller such as Secretary General John Ostermeyer for all the work they have done over the last two years. They spearheaded the IBAF's bid to return to the Olympic Program in 2016 and oversaw a baseball competition at the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games that witnessed record crowds and spurred interest in the sport throughout the country.



The last two years were also highlighted by the introduction of Baseball World Rankings for both men and women, the birth of an International Women's Baseball Committee and the first-ever Women's Continental Championship in Venezuela, an improved online presence with the introduction of IBAF.org, the IBAF becoming fully WADA-compliant, numerous new baseball federations worldwide, and most recently, the first ever IBAF Baseball World Cup to be held in multiple countries throughout Europe (seven countries in total) which featured the most competing nations (22) in the tournament's history as well.

Pic:
Newly elected Executive Board of the IBAF taking oath



CEB Congress

The upcoming CEB annual Congress 2010 will take place on March, 6th in Stuttgart, Germany in the 4**** Kongresshotel EUROPE. Like in the years before the congress program will already start Friday (5th) with various Workshops and the Regional Meetings. Every member federation attending the Regional Meetings will be reimbursed 400,- EUR. Please register through our website www.baseballeurope.com/congress/ As mentioned above the Congress 2010 will again be an election congress in order to fill in the vacant positions on the EC. The federations are asked to send in nominations for candidates until January 4th. Please note that only federations in good financial standing will be allowed to vote.

Developments

In the country of Iceland the 1st official Baseball Club called "The Trolls" was founded in Reykjavik in November 2008. Raj Bonifatius does a great job to promote Baseball in Iceland. Now we received notice that Iceland seeks to become a member of CEB. If all necessary requirements can be completed before March, the Congress will be asked to approve their application for membership.



CEB Competitions

All CEB events for 2010 are published on our website under Competitions. As soon as the CEB Executive Board approved the hosts for the 2010 competitions, they will be immediately published there, too. Please send your subscription as soon as possible. Subscription forms can be found at: www.baseballeurope.com/692/

Christmas and New Year

On behalf of the whole CEB Executive Board I wish everybody a Merry Christmas, happy holidays and a healthy and successful New Year 2010!

Martin Miller
(President CEB) 11 December, 2009

