

WBSC LEGACY CLUB

Annual Report 2023



Be part of our Legacy

Mission

- To **bridge cultural gaps** and **enhance standards** of **education, health, and economic and social development** worldwide by using **baseball/softball** as a **powerful tool** for **humanitarian and legacy initiatives**.
- Our goal is to leave a **lasting impact on the world** by growing the sport and make it relevant in people's lives and communities. We aspire to leave a meaningful and positive legacy for the WBSC Family, event hosts, and future generations.

Values

- Team Spirit & Friendship
- Integrity & Respect
- Tradition & Innovation
- Diversity & Unity
- Excellence & Fun



January

- After an intensive training of three months, the WBSC hired **Mr. Alatoom** to be the **Head Coach** of the WBSC Azraq Baseball5 Refugee Team. The Head Coach conduct weekly training sessions for 50 to 60 children.
- The Azraq refugee camp is located near Azraq, Jordan, and was built for refugees escaped from the Syrian Civil war in 2014.
- Developed, and operated by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), in conjunction with the Government of Jordan, the Azraq refugee camp population has reached over 35,000 refugees.



February

- A dedicated Baseball5 field was opened for refugees to use at the Azraq Refugee Camp.



- Baseball5 featured in the first ever Taekwondo Humanitarian Foundation Hopes and Dreams Sports Festival held in Amman in Jordan from 25-27 February 2023.
- Around **300 young refugee athletes** took part in the Hopes and Dreams Sports Festival, on February 27, including a refugee team from Afghanistan.
- A Team of Baseball5 kids from the near city of Balila (Jordan) participated with the aim of reducing discrimination and promoting inclusion and integration among local communities.



March

- A first Baseball5 clinic was organised with international Coach **Chedli Mokrani** from Tunisia for 14 coaches and 50 children.
- The clinic ended by a tournament in the village of Balila with Balila & Azraq Team and the presence of their parents with the successful goal to foster integration between local communities and refugees.





April (1)

- On April 6th, 2023, the WBSC presented its Legacy Club wishing to establish a more robust commitment on humanitarian and legacy initiatives. The day was chosen to commemorate the United Nations International Day of Sport for Development and Peace acknowledging the role that sports plays in driving social change. Sports bring people together building cooperative and healthy communities, promoting peace and overcoming cultural barriers helping to make the world a better place to live.



- Vision:** *"A world where everyone has access and can benefit from baseball/softball"*

April (2)

- During the International day of Sport for Development and Peace celebrations, the WBSC contributed to support the Kakuma Refugee Camp in Kenya by donating equipment. The Kakuma camp opened in 1992 and is home to 200 000 people primarily from South Sudan.



July (1)

- **Organisation of the Balila Grassroots Baseball5 Championship**, a competition between Azraq refugee team and local villages: Balila & Maqbeleh. It was the occasion for President Fraccari, present at the event, to spoke with team members and parents for feedback on the project. During the Championship new summer uniforms were offered by the WBSC to the Azraq team.
- **Improvement of facilities** with the opening of a second baseball5 field and the instalment of a container for equipment storage.



July (2)

- The WBSC President & WBSC Chief Operating Officer discussed with Prince Feisal Al Hussein (President of the Jordan Olympic Committee) the development of Baseball/Softball in Jordan.



- The success of introducing Baseball5 into both Refugee Camps and other communities within Jordan has led to the Jordan Olympic Committee appointing a five-person taskforce to create a Baseball and Softball Federation in the country in conjunction with the WBSC.

September (1)

- Second High Level Clinic run by the Italian coach Andrea D'Auria for coaches, game officials and practitioners at the Azraq Refugee Camp, which was attended by 12 inhabitants from the Camp and the nearby village Balila. Teams from local villages have also competed against the Azraq Refugee Team in tournaments.



September (2)

- The Azraq refugee team project as expanded to local villages: Balila, Meqbeleh and Summa. The Legacy Club is also supporting Baseball5 activities in the Souf Refugee Camp by donating equipment and Baseball5 training workshop.
- The Souf Camp refugee team was founded at the end of August by the Maher Foundation in partnership with the WBSC Legacy Club. The team is composed of 25 children who hold Jordanian citizenship but are Palestinian Refugees.



October

- The Baseball5 Refugee Team's head coach Amjad Alatoom was invited to the inaugural WBSC Baseball5 Youth World Cup in Turkey. He participated in Game Officials training and became one of the WBSC Baseball5 international game officials. This gave him the opportunity to officiate during the tournament and learn skills that he could take back to the Azraq refugee camp in Jordan. Two other Jordanian coaches attended the tournament and the education classes.



December

- The WBSC was invited to take part in the Global Refugee Forum on 13 December in Geneva and renewed its commitment to the UNHCR's Joint Pledge on Sport for Inclusion and Protection.
- It was the occasion for President Fraccari to present the work of the WBSC Legacy Club, especially the WBSC's successful work at the Azraq Refugee Camp in Jordan, at a high-level dialogue event on the subject of Breaking Barriers: Realising the Potential of Sport for Inclusion and Protection, which was co-hosted by the Government of Colombia, Scort Foundation, the Olympic Refuge Foundation and the UNHCR.



Next Steps

- With the Legacy Club, the WBSC wants to expand its activities in Jordan and look to run further programmes and initiatives in other locations.
- With the creation of the National Baseball/Softball Federation in Jordan, Baseball5 will be used as a first tool to further expand baseball/softball in Jordan through schools and to have the first national team formed by the best athletes and coaches of the four villages involved (Balila, Meqbeleh, Summa and Souf).
- The WBSC wishes to have a Baseball5 refugee team participating in international trainings and tournaments with the vision to create an opportunity for them to be part of the 2026 Youth Olympic Games in Dakar.

WBSC Legacy Club Finances

- The WBSC Legacy Club has its own bank account separate from that of the WBSC and expenditure is checked by an independent Swiss certified audit firm that applies rigorous international financial reporting standards.
- The WBSC Legacy Club produce also an annual financial report which is sent to all donors and is published online in the [legacy club finance's section](#) each year.
- 2023 Income: 62.297 USD
- 2023 Expenses: 63.037,38 USD

Acknowledgments

- The WBSC Legacy Club is truly grateful to all its Donors, Legacy Club Members and Partners who are helping to provide hope and opportunity for displaced people through Baseball/Softball.

Thank you!

