



Baseball Federation of Asia

## 2024 BFA 2<sup>nd</sup> Executive Meeting

### Minutes

*Date: 30th November, 2024*

*Location: いよてつ会館 (〒790-0004 愛媛県松山市大街道3丁目1-1)*

*Time: 09:00 AM (GMT+9)*

#### Attendees:

President	Mr. Jeffrey Koo Jr. (TPE)
Vice President	Mr. Chen Xu (CHN), Mr. Masatake Yamanaka (JPN) Mr. Syed Fakhar Ali Shah (PAK)
Member at Large	Mr. Rodolfo Tingzon Jr. (PHI), Mr. Houman Mansourian (IRI)
Secretary General	Mr. Lin, Hua-Wei (TPE)
Commissions	Ms. Hiroko Yamada (JPN), Mr. Vutichai Udomkarnjananan (THA)
Observer	Mr. Soroush Taleghani (IRI), Mr. Richard Lin (TPE), Mr. Calvin Yeh (TPE), Mr. Katsuhito Koyama (JPN), Mr. Jeff Kung (TPE), Mr. Ken Huang (TPE), Mr. Chris Day (TPE), Mr. Tim Tseng (TPE), Ms. Yoyo Dai (TPE), Mr. Shigeki Hashimoto (JPN), Kazumi Kinoshita (JPN), Mr. Roger Kao (TPE), Mr. Happy Wu (TPE), Mr. Tung-Hsuang Chiang (TPE), Mr. Joe Yao (TPE), Mr. Micheal Chiang (TPE), Ms. Yeh, Szu-Yin (TPE), Mr. Chou, Szu-Chi (TPE), Mr. Douangchote Suwanjalask (THA), Mr. Phanphit Watcharinporn (THA), Mr. Chaiwat Chaiwannachinda (THA), Mr. Au Sean Hok Leung (HKG), Ms. Yiwen Sun (CHN), Mr. Yuji Nagakubo (JPN), Mr. Arata Ishii (JPN), Mr. Masayuki Naito (JPN), Mr. Xu, Yong (CHN), Ms. Xu, Xiaoying (CHN)
Not Present	Mr. Andrew Fan (HKG) – Member at Large

#### 1) Roll Call

President Mr. Jeffrey Koo Jr. named each member in alphabetical order. Out of the seven member countries/regions:

- **Present:** Six member countries/regions were present.
- **Apologies:** One member country/region submitted prior notice of absence and was recorded as Absent with Apologies.

This fulfills the quorum requirement for the meeting to proceed.

#### 2) BFA President's Greeting

Vice President Yamanaka-san, Vice President Chen Xu, Vice President Ali, esteemed Executive Committee members, and BFA partners, good morning!



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First of all, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Baseball Federation of Japan for their assistance in arranging this year-end Executive Committee meeting in the beautiful and comfortable city of Matsuyama. However, I must also acknowledge the tremendous effort made by our friends from Iran and Pakistan, who traveled more than 3,000 to 4,000 kilometers to be here. Thank you for your dedication!

This year, we successfully hosted the East Asia Cup, the U12, and the U18 tournaments. I want to express my deep appreciation to the Philippines, Japan, and Taiwan for their full support in making these events a success. Additionally, we completed five clinics/seminars for coaches, umpires, and scorers, with special thanks to the Chinese Baseball Association for their invaluable assistance.

On another note, our long-time friend Mr. Vutichai is retiring, and we are pleased to welcome his successor, Mr. Douangchote, as the new leader of the Amateur Baseball Association of Thailand. Let us give a round of applause—first, to express our gratitude to Mr. Vutichai for his years of dedication, and second, to warmly welcome the talented and promising Mr. Douangchote to the BFA family!

Looking ahead to next year, we have an exciting lineup of events, including the U15 Championship, the Women's Baseball Asian Cup, the West Asia Cup, and the Asian Baseball Championship. Following their successful hosting of this year's U23 Baseball World Cup, the Chinese Baseball Association will take on the responsibility of organizing the Women's Baseball Asian Cup and the Asian Baseball Championship next year. We are excited to see China gradually becoming a stronghold for baseball in Asia, driving a new era for the sport in our region.

Finally, I would like to thank all the members of the Executive Committee for your unwavering support of the BFA over the past year. As we enter a new year, I look forward to your continued participation and collaboration. Let us all remember the BFA motto: "Asian Power." Together, we can achieve great things!



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### 3) **Review – Secretary General**

1. Review of the Minutes from the Last Executive Meeting (15<sup>th</sup>, May, 2024)

**-Unanimously approved**

### 4) **Report**

1. The Reports of 2024 Annual BFA Events and Tournaments

- A. 2024 WBSC/BFA Technical Commissioner and Umpire Clinic

- Location: Yizheng City, Jiangsu Province, China
- Completion Period: 2<sup>nd</sup> of April to 8<sup>th</sup> of April
- Participants:
  - Technical Commissioner: 11 participants from China, 7 nominated by other national federations, totaling 18 participants.
  - Umpire Clinic: 25 participants from China, 10 nominated by other national federations, totaling 35 participants.

- B. 2024 BFA Coach Clinic in Shaoxing

- Location: Shaoxing City, Zhejiang Province, China
- Completion Period: 21<sup>st</sup> of April to 28<sup>th</sup> of April
- Participants: 45 participants from China

- C. 2024 BFA Coach Clinic (Basic Level) in Fujian Province – First Half

- Location: Liancheng County, Longyan City, Fujian Province, China
- Completion Period: 1<sup>st</sup> of June to 7<sup>th</sup> of June
- Participants: 50 participants from China

- D. 2024 BFA Coach Clinic (Basic Level) in Fujian Province – Second Half

- Location: Liancheng County, Longyan City, Fujian Province, China
- Completion Period: 4<sup>th</sup> of July to 10<sup>th</sup> of July
- Participants: 50 participants from China

- E. 2024 BFA Advanced Scoring Clinic

- Location: Taipei City, Taiwan
- Completion Period: 17<sup>th</sup> August to 18<sup>th</sup> of August
- Participants: 22 participants from the local area and 2 from international locations, totaling 24 participants.



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- F. 2024 BFA XIII (13<sup>th</sup>) U18 Baseball Championship
- Location: Taipei City, New Taipei City and Taoyuan City, Taiwan
  - Completion Period: 2<sup>nd</sup> of September to 8<sup>th</sup> of September
  - Participating Teams:
    - Group A:  
(1) Chinese Taipei, (2) Pakistan, (3) South Korea, (4) Thailand
    - Group B:  
(5) Hong Kong, China (6) Japan, (7) Sri Lanka, (8) Philippines
  - Final Ranking:
    - Championship: Chinese Taipei
    - Runner-up: Japan
    - Third place: South Korea
- G. 2024 BFA XIV (14<sup>th</sup>) East Asia Cup
- Location: Clark City, Philippines
  - Completion Period: 29<sup>th</sup> of October to 3<sup>rd</sup> of November
  - Participating Teams:
    - Group A:  
(1) Cambodia, (2) Hong Kong, China, (3) Malaysia, (4) Thailand
    - Group B:  
(5) Indonesia, (6) Philippines, (7) Singapore
  - Final Ranking:
    - Championship: Philippines
    - Runner-up: Hong Kong, China
    - Third place: Thailand
- H. 2024 BFA XI (11<sup>th</sup>) U12 Baseball Championship
- Location: Matsuyama City and Imabari City, Japan
  - Completion Period: 23<sup>rd</sup> of November to 29<sup>th</sup> of November
  - Participating Teams:
    - Group A:  
(1) China, (2) India, (3) Japan, (4) Philippines



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- Group B:  
(5) Hong Kong, Korea, (6) South Korea,  
(7) Thailand, (8) Chinese Taipei
- Final Ranking:  
Championship: Chinese Taipei  
Runner-up: Korea  
Third place: Japan

**-Unanimously approved**

**2. Amendment to BFA Tournaments' Regulations**

- A. Adjust the pitch limit rule for U-12, U-15 and U-18 BWC to make them cumulative each day.

**Original rule:**

Pitcher cannot pitch three (3) consecutive days, if pitcher's first two (2) days combined exceed thirty (30).

**New rule:**

A pitcher can only pitch on three (3) consecutive days if pitch count on the two previous days does not exceed thirty (30) pitches. It should be noted when a pitcher pitches on consecutive days, their pitch count from the previous day(s) will be used to determine the number of pitches allowed for the day.

**U12 Example:**

NUMBER OF PITCHES	1 - 30	31 - 45	46 - 60	61 - 75	Max. 85
REST DAYS	No rest	1 day	2 days	3 days	4 days

If a pitcher throws 29 pitches over two days, they are allowed to throw the third day because the pitch count total was under 30, , but they can only throw a maximum of 56 pitches on the third day (maximum of 85 minus the 29).



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U15 Example:

NUMBER OF PITCHES	1 - 35	36 - 50	51 - 65	66 - 80	Max. 95
REST DAYS	No rest	1 day	2 days	3 days	4 days

If a pitcher throws 34 pitches over two days, they are allowed to throw the third day because the pitch count total was under 35, but they can only throw a maximum of 61 pitches on the third day (maximum of 95 minus the 34).

U18 Example:

NUMBER OF PITCHES	1 - 40	41 - 55	56 - 75	76 - 90	91 - 105
REST DAYS	No rest	1 day	2 days	3 days	4 days

If a pitcher throws 39 pitches over two days, they are allowed to throw the third day because the pitch count total was under 40, but they can only throw a maximum of 66 pitches on the third day (maximum of 105 minus the 39).

B. Amendment to BFA Tournament for U-12

- Remove the Re-entry rule
- Remove the Designated Hitter (DH)
- To lower the aluminum bat BPF from 1.15 down to 1

**-Unanimously approved**



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3. 2024 BFA Financial Statement



2024 BFA Financial Statement (Estimated)

REVENUE			EXPENSES		
Items	Amount	Description	Items	Amount	Description
2023 Remaining	\$14,369		BFA Executive Meeting	\$63,586	BFA I ECM 25,171 BFA II ECM 38,415
Membership Fee	\$5,800	500* 4 (CHN, JPN, KOR, TPE) 200*19 (AFG, BAN, BHU, CAM, HKG, INA, IND, IRI, IRQ, KSA, LAO, MAS, NEP, PAK, PHI, PAL, SGP, SRI, THA)	Tournament expoense	\$36,568	U12 13,500 U18 13,872 EAC 9,241
Donation	\$20,000	BFI, CTBA	BFA Clinic	\$15,792	TC & Umpire Clinic @Yizheng Adeanced Scoring Clinic @Taipei
Sponsor Fee	\$183,150	Kenko=6,650 (¥1,000,000 ) Corporations' sponsors= 150,000 WBSC= 26,500	Operating Cost	\$88,125	
Government Grant	\$46,154		Hosting Fee	\$30,000	U12, U18, East Asia Cup
Tournament Paticipating fee	\$23,000	East Asia Cup 7,000 U12 8,000 U18 8,000	報名費 Tournament Paticipating fee	\$15,000	East Asia Cup 7,000 U12 8,000
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>\$292,473</b>		<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>\$249,071</b>	
			<b>NET INCOME/ DEFICIT</b>	<b>\$43,402</b>	

**-Unanimously approved**

**5) Discussion**

1. The Discussion of BFA Upcoming Events in 2025

A. 2025 BFA IV (4<sup>th</sup>) Women's Baseball Asian Cup

- Location: Guali Town, Hangzhou City, Zhejiang Province, China
- Completion Period: TBD
- Participating: TBD
- Scheduled for late October in Guangli town, Hangzhou, China, with eight teams expected. Due to venue limitations, BFA is considering hosting a qualification tournament, potentially in Thailand, which received preliminary approval.

B. 2025 BFA XVI (16<sup>th</sup>) West Asia Cup (WAC)

- Location: Karaj, Iran



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- Completion Period: 1st of May to 8th of May 2025 (proposed date)
  - Participating: Countries/ Regions from West Asia
  - Set for May in Karaj, Iran. Iran's representative presented detailed plans for the venue, accommodation, and transport.
- C. 2025 BFA XI (11<sup>th</sup>) U15 Asian Baseball Championship
- Location: Tainan City, Taiwan
  - Completion Period: Expected by the end of August, 2025
  - Participating: TBD
- D. 2025 BFA XXXI (31<sup>st</sup>) Asian Baseball Championship
- Location: Pingtan County, Fujian Province, China
  - Completion Period: TBD
  - Participating: TBD
  - Planned for after September in Pingtan, China, with 8 teams, including Japan, South Korea, Chinese Taipei, China, the Philippines, Hong Kong, and the top two teams from the West Asia Cup.
- E. 2025 BFA Congress
- Location: Bangkok, Thailand
  - Completion Period: TBD
  - Participating: TBD
  - To be held in Bangkok, Thailand, in November or December 2025. New Executive Committee members will be elected.
- F. 2025 BFA Coach Clinic
- Location: TBD
  - Completion Period: TBD
  - Participating: TBD
  - Location to be determined.

**-Unanimously approved**



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2. 2025 BFA Annual Budget

**2025 BFA Annual Budget**

REVENUE			EXPENSES		
Items	Amount	Description	Items	Amount	Description
2024 Remaining	\$43,402		BFA Executive Meeting	\$93,600	BFA I ECM 27,000 BFA II ECM 66,600
Membership Fee	\$5,800	500* 4 (CHN, JPN, KOR, TPE) 200*19 (AFG, BAN, BHU, CAM, HKG, INA, IND, IRI, IRQ, KSA, LAO, MAS, NEP, PAK, PHI, PAL, SGP, SRI, THA)	Tournament expense	\$34,320	Women's Baseball 10,500 U15 10,500 West Asia Cup 6,320 Asian Championship 7,000
Donation	\$20,000	BFJ, CTBA	BFA Clinic	\$15,400	
Sponsor Fee	\$176,500	Corporations' sponsors= 150,000 WBSC= 26,500	Operating Cost	\$95,758	
Government Grant	\$36,364		Hosting Fee	\$40,000	Women's Baseball, U15, West Asia Cup, Asian Championship
Tournament Participating fee	\$35,000	Women's Baseball 8,000 U15 8,000 West Asia Cup 7,000 Asian Championship 12,000	報名費 Tournament Participating fee	\$23,000	Women's Baseball 8,000 U15 8,000 West Asia Cup 8,000
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>\$317,066</b>		<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>\$302,078</b>	
			<b>NET INCOME/ DEFICIT</b>	<b>\$14,988</b>	

**-Unanimously approved**

**6) Any Other Matters**

1. The meeting addressed the difficulties faced by the Pakistan delegation in participating in the U18 Asian Championship in Taiwan due to political constraints linked to the "One China" policy. Key points included:
  - A. Incident Details:
    - The Pakistan government barred the delegation from traveling to Taiwan.
    - The representative from Pakistan shared his personal challenges, including investigations and unfair treatment from his government for pursuing participation in Taiwan-based events.
  - B. Chair’s Response:
    - Strong condemnation of political interference in sports, emphasizing that sports should symbolize unity and not division.



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- Assurance of raising the issue with the WBSC (World Baseball Softball Confederation) and the IOC (International Olympic Committee) to urge the Pakistan government to separate politics from sports.

### C. Proposed Solutions:

- Chinese Taipei representatives offered to assist in ensuring Pakistan's participation in future events.
- The committee reiterated the importance of finding ways to support Pakistan's baseball activities despite political challenges.

## 2. Proposal and Approval of the Qualifier for the 2025 BFA 4th Women's Baseball Asian Cup.

- During the meeting, it was noted that the registration for the 2025 BFA 4th Women's Baseball Asian Cup has been highly competitive, reflecting the growing enthusiasm and participation in women's baseball across Asia. In light of this, and with the goal of further promoting and developing women's baseball in the region, the newly appointed President of the Baseball Association of Thailand proposed that Thailand host the qualifying tournament for this event.
- The proposal emphasized Thailand's commitment to supporting the growth of women's baseball by providing a platform for more teams to compete at the continental level. After thorough discussion, the proposal was reviewed and unanimously approved by the President and attending members.
- Further details regarding the organization, scheduling, and logistics of the qualifier will be coordinated between BFA and the Baseball Association of Thailand.
- The Baseball Association of Thailand has also raised a request regarding the host country's automatic qualification for the Women's Baseball Asian Cup. This issue has not yet been decided and remains under review.
- The meeting concluded with appreciation for Thailand's initiative and a shared commitment to advancing women's baseball in Asia.

**-Unanimously approved**



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## 7) Next Meeting