SINGAPORE BASEBALL & SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION (SBSA)

SBSA is an affiliate of:
SINGAPORE NATIONAL OLYMPIC COUNCIL (SNOC)
WORLD BASEBALL & SOFTBALL CONFEDERATION (WBSC)
BASEBALL FEDERATION ASIA (BFA)
SOFTBALL ASIA (SA)

SBSA ANNUAL REPORT
FY2022/2023

63rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
16 September 2023

3 Stadium Drive, Singapore 397630
UEN NO: S60SS0022B

FOREWORD

Dear Affiliates, Associates, Life Members &
Supporters of Baseball, Baseball 5 and Softball,

As the world emerges from the throes of the Covid19 pandemic, sporting activities have resumed in full force with many overseas tournaments being held throughout late 2022 and 2023. The Singapore Baseball and Softball Association (SBSA) has benefitted from this resumption: our national and age-group baseball and softball teams were involved in a total of 19 competitions from September 2022 to September 2023. We have also seen three new teams representing Singapore in several new disciplines such as Baseball 5 (Open and U-18 categories) and Slow Pitch Softball (Open category) in Asian qualifiers held in Malaysia and Thailand respectively. We were also represented at the inaugural eSport Olympics held in Singapore in June.

Preparing for these tournaments has not been easy and would have been impossible without the continued support of athletes, their families and friends, the management teams as well as volunteers and well-wishers of the SBSA. I would like to express my appreciation to all those who have helped make our teams' participation in tournaments possible and a success.

In particular, as I write this, we are approaching the start of the Asian Games 2023 which will be held in Hangzhou, China, in September after a delay of a year. This 19th Asian Games will see our National Men's Baseball and National Women's Softball Teams' inaugural appearances at these games. Our National Men's U-18 Softball Team will then be heading to Mexico in November to pit their skills against the best teams at the XIV U-18 Men's Softball World Cup 2023. We wish all teams the very best of luck.

Even as our national teams have been busy training for various tournaments, our officials have also been hard at work representing Singapore at various tournaments, with our softball umpires and scorers attending and running Softball Asia courses throughout the year. At home, our coaching commission has also been busy running SG-Coach Level 2 Full Integration Program (Softball).

Sincerely,

Foo Pei

President

SBSA

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1st April 2022 TO 31st March 2023

1. About Us

Previously known as the Singapore Softball Association (SSA), the association was formed in 1960. It was later renamed the Singapore Baseball & Softball Association (SBSA) in 1998 and has remained as it is till the present day.

The SBSA's objective is to uphold, as the national governing organization for Baseball, Baseball5 and Softball in Singapore, the rules of Baseball, Baseball5 and Softball as adopted by the World Baseball & Softball Confederation (WBSC), the Baseball Federation of Asia (BFA), and Softball Asia (SA) which are the international and regional authorities respectively.

Our mission is:

To encourage, promote, develop and control the games of and various disciplines linked with Baseball, Baseball5 and Softball in Singapore;

To promote and arrange local and overseas Baseball, Baseball5 and Softball competitions for the benefit of affiliated clubs, associations and teams;

To promote better understanding and to integrate and strengthen the spirit of friendship between one another, through baseball and softball; and

To advance and safeguard generally the interests of the game of Baseball, Baseball5 and Softball, and to employ the funds of the Association for this purpose.

Our core values and strategic thrusts:

1. Developing our players and officials;

2. Excelling in Baseball, Baseball5 and Softball fundamentals;

3. Participating in local, regional and international events;

4. Nurturing the sporting culture in Singapore.

2. 62nd Annual General Meeting

The Singapore Baseball and Softball Association (SBSA) held its 62nd Annual General Meeting on 24 September 2022.

3. 2022/2024 Council Members:

	Name	Current Board Appointment*	Occupation	Board Appointment
3.1.	Foo Pei	President	Executive Officer	*Since 2022 - Current President, 2018 - 2022 Deputy President, 2016 - 2017 Secretary General, 2008 - 2012 Ordinary Member, 2004 – 2006 Assistant Sec Gen, 2006 -2008
3.2.	Ivan Ng Ee Han	Deputy President	Banker	*Since 2022 - Current
3.3.	Kan Sook Kuan	Treasurer	Finance	*Since 2022 - Current
3.4.	Tan Chia Mien	Secretary General	Lecturer	*Since 2022 - Current Asst. Secretary General 2016 – 2022 Secretary General, 2012 - 2016
3.5.	Lim Poh Choo, Jenny	Vice President (Softball)	Defence executive officer – safety officer	*Since 2022 - Current Vice President Softball, 2017 - 2022
3.6.	Aeran Ismail	Vice President (Baseball)	Director	*Since 2022 - Current
3.7.	Chaw Wee Teck	Council Member, Team Manager for Men's Softball Team manager	GM	*Since 2022 – Resigned 21st July 2023 Council Member, 2020-2022
3.8.	Senthil Dayalan	Council Member	Lawyer	*Since 2022 - Removed 27th June 2023 Council Member 2020-2022

4. 2022/2023 Co-opted Members

4.1. Wang Gangyi - Council Member (HPE – Baseball Men's)

4.2. Magdelyn Chow - Council Member (HPE – Women's Softball)

5. 2022/2023 Appointment of Sub-Committees/Commission

5.1. Discipline & Appeal Panel - Chairman - President

5.2. Facilities - Chairman - President

- Lead IC - Ivan Ng

5.3. Capability Development	-	Chairman	- Tan Chia Mien
5.3.1. Coaching Commission	-	Lead IC	- Farhan Harahap
5.3.2. Umpire Commission	-	Lead IC	- Ahmad Masran and Foo Lai Meng
5.3.3. Scorers Commission	-	Lead IC	- Magdelyn Chow
5.4. Fund Raising	-	Chairman	- President
	-	Member	- Team Managers Baseball & Softball
5.5. Baseball	-	Chairman	- Vice President Baseball
5.6. Softball	-	Chairman	- Ms. Lim Poh Choo, Jenny (Softball)
5.7. HPE/Training and Selections	-	Chairman	- Ms. Lim Poh Choo, Jenny (Softball)
	-	Team Mgr, HPE (W)	- Ms. Magdelyn Chow
	-	Team Mgr, HPE (M)	- Ms. Jenny Lim
5.8. HPE/Training and Selections	-	Chairman	- Mr. Hideyuki Uchida (Baseball)
	-	Team Mgr, HPE	- Mr. Wang Gangyi
5.9. Events Management	-	Chairman	- Sec General Office
5.10. Anti-Doping	-	Chairman	- VPs Softball & VP Baseball
5.11. Safety Policy & Risk Mgmt	-	Chairman	- Secretary General
5.12. SG Secure	-	Chairman	- Secretary General
5.13. Business Development	-	Chairman	- Deputy President / President

6. Financial Statements and Annual General Meeting (AGM) Report Periods

6.1. This AGM report's financial statement covers events from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 in a bid to keep affiliates updated on all the events and issues overseen by the Council.

7. Membership and Communications (2022/2023)

7.1. The total number of affiliates stands at thirteen (12), associates at two (3) and life members continue to remain at four (4). The number of affiliates remains unchanged.

7.2. AFFILIATES

1. BASEBALL CLUB SINGAPORE (B)
2. SINGAPORE RECREATION CLUB (S)
3. SINGAPORE FALCONS (B)
4. TYPHOONS (B)
5. ANGELS (S)
6. CUDAS (S)
7. ORA (S)
8. SPARTANS (S)
9. SINGAPORE BREWERS (B)
10. KOOLCATZ (S)
11. HIT SQUAD (S)
12. MAIKO JAPAN (S)

7.3. ASSOCIATES

1. QUEENS (S)
2. JNBC (S)
3. STAMFORD AMEIRICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL (S)

7.4. LIFE MEMBERS

1. Abdul Aziz Bin Abu Talib
2. Abdul Nasser Bin Kamaruddin
3. Harris J. Vertlieb
4. Ho Hong Sing

8. General Information

8.1.	Registered Office	:	3 Stadium Drive, Singapore 397630
8.2.	Our Banker	:	Development Bank of Singapore (DBS)
8.3.	Our Auditor	:	S B Tan Audit PAC

9. Governing Instruments of SBSA

9.1. The SBSA is a registered charity with Institutions of a Public Character ("IPC") status. It is governed by the Societies Act and the Charities Act. In addition, we work closely with Sport Singapore on various fronts and adhere to the various rules and regulations required by Sport Singapore for National Sports Associations. Our financial statements are prepared in accordance with Singapore Financial Reporting Standards.

10. Finance and Funding Policies

10.1. The SBSA is financially supported by donations and government grants. There were no major changes to the policies during the financial year.

11. Staffing

11.1. As at 31 March 2023, there is 1 member of staff - 1 full-time Admin Executive with primary responsibility of supporting SBSA Pathway Development and office administrative support. During the year, there was a HPE Executive who resigned in March 2023.

11.2. Additionally, SBSA also has a team of 6 coaches and 8 trainers to direct and oversee the training of its High-Performance Teams (the National Men's Baseball Team, the National Men's Elite and U-23 Softball Teams, as well as the National Women's Elite and Age Group Softball Teams).

11.3. 1 of the trainers serves on the Board of SBSA (known as the SBSA Council). There is no paid staff, who is a close member of the family of the EXCO.

11.4. None of the staff receives more than $100,000 in annual remuneration each.

11.5. For more information on staffing and remuneration, please refer to **Note 10** of the financial statements.

11.6. The coaches for our various HPE teams are as follows:-

11.6.1. <u>Baseball (Men's)</u>

1) Coach - Hideyuki Uchida
2) Trainer - Lai Min-Yen
3) Trainer - Lim Hua Kiat

11.6.2. <u>Softball (Men's)</u>

1) Coach - Farhan Harahap bin Amirudin
2) Coach - Koh Ruoh Jie
3) Coach - William Jess Mendoza
4) Trainer - Foo Say Kian (Age grp)
5) Trainer - Joshua Tam (Age grp)
6) Trainer - Marcus Chew (Age grp)

11.6.3. Softball (Women's)

1) Coach - Elaine Chua Ling Ling
2) Coach - Aiko Nakamura
3) Trainer - Keong Yumei
4) Trainer - Ivan Ng
5) Trainer - Gerann Ngiam (ended contract on 31 March 2023)

12. Fundraising Event and Activities

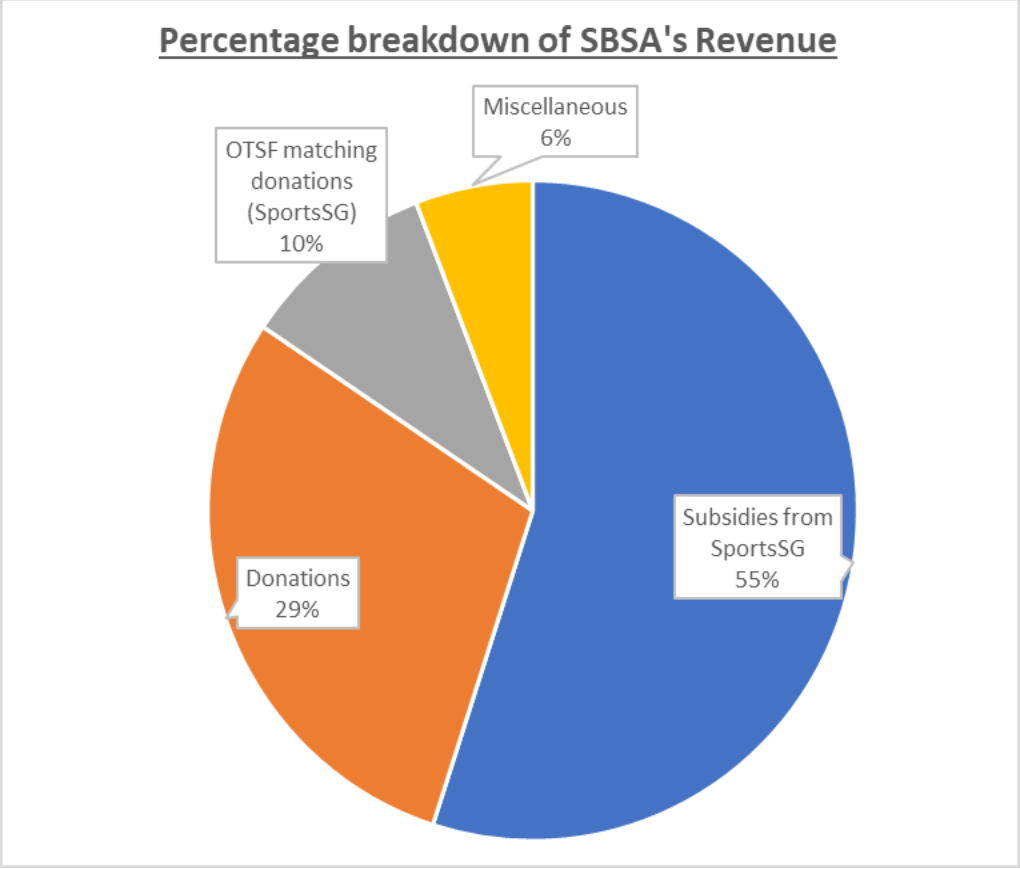
12.1. During the financial year, as Covid border restrictions were progressive lifted, sporting activities have resumed in full force with many overseas tournaments being held throughout late 2022 and 2023. Coaching, umpiring and scorers courses were also held to upskill and keep our officials abreast of developments.

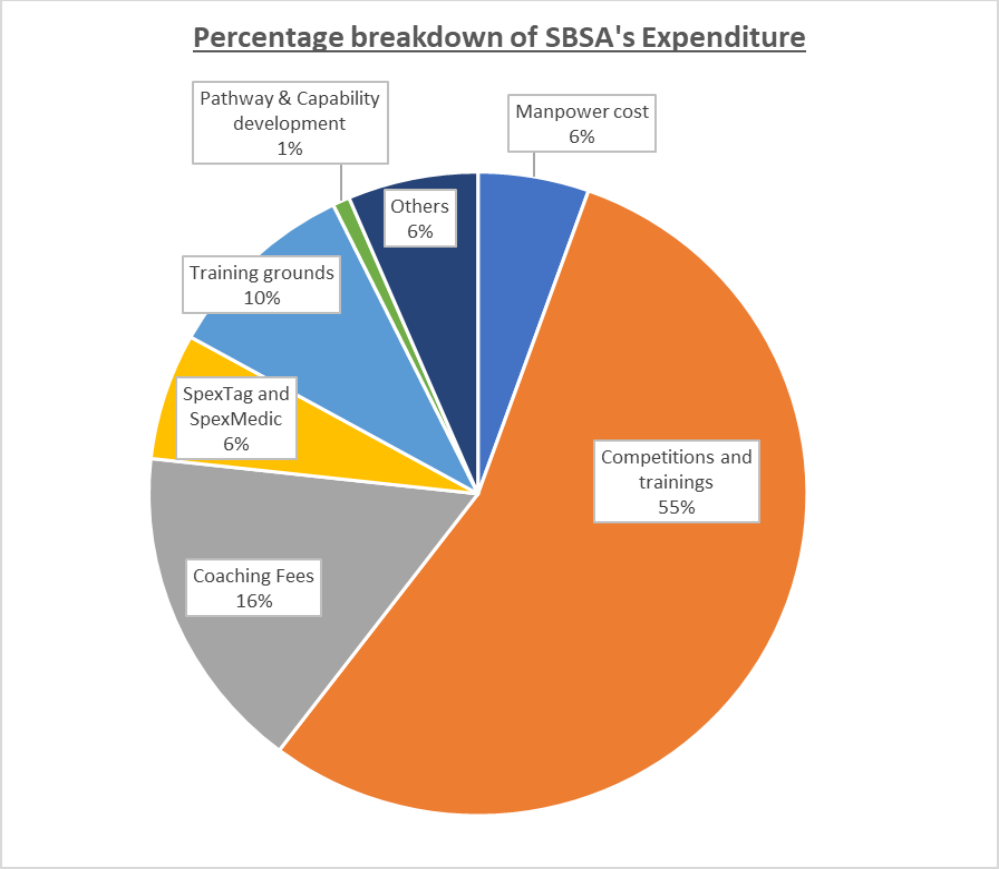
12.2. SBSA also organised the Masters Tournament in November 2022.

13. Financial Highlights. Review of Financial State and Explanation of Major Financial Transactions

13.1. Revenue: $1.07M

13.2. Expenditure: $1.09M





13.3. Donation income

13.3.1. During the financial year, the SBSA received a total of $316K of donations; of which $12K was classified as Non-tax deductible donations and $304K was classified as Tax deductible donations.

13.3.2. In sum, the total donations are significantly higher than prior year as Covid19 restrictions are progressively lifted and sporting activities and competitions have resumed in full force.

13.4. One Team Singapore Fund and Sport SG One Team Singapore Fund

13.4.1. The One Team Singapore Fund (OTSF) was set up specifically for donations received from the supporters of Team Singapore to contribute to enhancing the High-Performance Sport system for our athletes. The SportSG One Team Singapore Fund was the dollar-to-dollar matching funds received from Sport Singapore for OTSF.

13.4.2. 90% of our donation income received (please refer to 13.3) amounting to $284K qualified for the OTSF matching fund and had been approved by Sport Singapore.

13.5. Reserves Policy. **Restricted and Unrestricted Funds**. The SBSA maintains both restricted and unrestricted funds. Both donations and SportSG OTSF were classified as restricted funds. Restricted funds can only be utilised for the following purposes:-

13.5.1. Pathway Development for Team Singapore Athletes

13.5.2. Coach Development to raise the expertise and professionalism of Coaches

13.5.3. Provision of Sport Science and Medicine services by the Singapore Sports Institute and the National Youth Sports Institute

13.5.4. Enhancement of the training environment for Team Singapore Athletes locally or overseas

13.5.5. Data analytics and information to facilitate informed decision-making, improve sporting performance and enhance the efficiency of the sport

13.5.6. Management capability to develop and implement clear multi-year sports plan

13.5.7. Competition opportunities at the regional, continental, World/Olympics levels and their para equivalent

13.6. All income and expenses other than those related to donations and SportSG OTSF were recorded as unrestricted funds.

13.7. For further information on the SBSA's Reserves Policy and movements in Reserves, please refer to the financial statements.

13.8. Others

13.8.1. The audited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 March 2023 are available for review upon request.

14. Corporate Governance

14.1. As a national sporting association and registered charity with IPC status, the SBSA is committed to a high standard of corporate governance expected of such institutions. The Executive Council (EXCO) recognises the importance of good governance in providing greater transparency to the Association's operations, as well as being critical to the effective performance of the Association. All EXCO and staff are expected to act in the best interests of SBSA.

14.2. The role of the EXCO is to provide strategic direction and oversight of SBSA's programmes and objectives and to steer SBSA towards fulfilling its vision and mission through good governance. As part of its role, the following matters require the Board's (the SBSA Council's) approval:

14.2.1. Budget for the financial year and Expenditure against Budget for that same year;

14.2.2. Financial statements;

14.2.3. Progress of SBSA's programmes.

15. Charities Governance Evaluation Checklist

15.1. In implementing good governance practices, the Association, as a registered charity with IPC status, adopts best practices closely aligned to the principles in the Code of Governance for Charities and Institutions of Public Character ("Code"). In adhering to the Charity Council's requirements that all IPCs shall disclose the extent of their compliance with the Code, the Association's Governance Evaluation Checklist can be found on the Charity Portal Website www.charities.gov.sg.

16. Conflicts of Interest

16.1. It is the Association's policy that Executive Council Members, staff and all individuals representing or acting on behalf of the SBSA must be free from actual or perceived conflicts of interest that could adversely influence their judgment or objectivity in conducting the Association's activities and assignments.

16.2. Declaration of interests are conducted annually in written form. Updates to declarations are made during the year as and when they occur. In the event where there may be a conflict of interest, the concerned Member is asked to disclose the nature of the actual or perceived conflict and will recuse himself or herself from the discussions.

17. Whistle Blowing

17.1. The SBSA whistleblowing policy is in place to provide a framework to address concerns about possible wrong-doings or improprieties in financial or other matters, and to nurture a culture of integrity and transparency within the Association.

18. Term Limit of Executive Committee & Council Member

18.1. To enable succession planning and steady renewal in the spirit of sustainability of a charity, SBSA continues to keep track and monitor the tenure of our council members. Overall, SBSA has different term limits for different position holders:-

18.1.1. President: 4 Terms

18.1.2. Treasurer & Assistant Treasurer: 2 Terms

18.1.3. Ordinary Member: 4 Terms

18.1.4. Any member of the council who is serving in the association Executive Committee shall only serve up to consecutive three (3) terms in the said committee.

18.2. SBSA council meetings are conducted once a month; besides attending monthly council meetings, EXCO meets where necessary.

18.3. The breakdown attendance at Council meetings can be found in Annex 1

19. Disclosure of Remuneration and Benefits received by EXCO

19.1. The EXCO did not receive any remuneration for their services during the financial year.

20. High Performance (HPE) Baseball, Softball & Baseball 5 Highlight & Lowlights (For period April 2022 to August 2023)

20.1. Training Schedule for High Performance (HPE) Teams are listed below:-

HPE Team	Elite Teams	Developmental Teams
Baseball	Training: Wednesday, Saturday Strength Training: Friday	Ongoing
Softball Men's	Training: Thursday, Saturday & Sunday Strength Training: Monday	Ongoing
Softball Women's	Trainings: Wed, Sat & Sun Strength: Tues & Thurs	Ongoing

Note:- Up until April 2022, Virtual training was conducted when physical training was not possible due to COVID-19 social distancing measures.

20.2. List of the overseas tournaments and competitions SBSA teams have taken part in are listed below:-

SBSA Team Activities FY2022-2023

SN	Tournament	Team	Date
1	KONI Cup 2022	Men's Baseball Team	26 August 2022
2	Hong Kong International Baseball Open 2023		26 March 2023
3	BFA XIII East Asian Baseball Cup 2023		29 April 2023
4	WBSC Asia Cup Baseball5	Baseball5 Team	17 August 2022
5	Baseball5 Promotions and Roadshows		December 2022
6	Baseball5 Outreach Program @ Republic Polytechnic		April to June 2023
7	U18 Youth Baseball5 Asia Cup	U18 Baseball5 Team	07 February 2023
8	Fremantle Rebel Tournament 2022	Men's Softball Team	25 May 2022
9	Penang Softball Open 2022		10 June 2022
10	U23 Men's and Men's Softball Asia Cup 2022		01 September 2022
11	Chiang Mai Open Softball Tournament 2022		31 December 2022
12	U23 Men's Softball World Cup 2023		15 April 2023
13	Women's Softball Local Training Camp	Women's Softball Team	September 2022
14	Perth Training Trip		October 2022
15	Asian Universities Women Softball 2022		14 December 2022
16	Friendly Games with Puli Middle & High School Teams		February 2023
17	Women's Softball Asia Cup 2023		02 April 2023
18	Asia Cup Slow Pitch Softball (Co-Ed)	Mixed Slow Pitch Team	24 May 2023
19	WBSC U12 Mixed Softball World Cup	U12 Mixed Softball Team	07 December 2022
20	Baseball Olympics eSports	Individual Qualifier	June 2023

20.3. Men's Baseball High Performance Elite Team

20.3.1. KONI Baseball Cup

As reported in last year's report, after a prolonged hiatus due to the challenges posed by the Covid pandemic, the Singapore Men's Baseball Team kicked off their overseas competitions by travelling to Indonesia to participate in the highly anticipated KONI Baseball Cup.

While they didn't secure the championship, the trip proved to be rewarding as they had the chance to engage in competitive play once more.

20.3.2. Hong Kong International Baseball Open

Building on the momentum from Indonesia and aiming to qualify to participate in the 2023 Asian Games Hangzhou, the Singapore Baseball Team performed credibly at the Hong Kong International Baseball Open, securing second place. While the team encountered setbacks with losses against hosts Hong Kong and fought valiantly against tough competitors, their true strength emerged in the matches against Thailand National Team and Indonesia Club Team.

Although the Singapore Baseball Team fell short of clinching the championship title, their participation in the Hong Kong International Baseball Open 2023 was anything but underwhelming.

Hong Kong International Baseball Open

20.3.3. BFA XIII East Asian Cup 2023

Buoyed by their accomplishments at the Hong Kong International Baseball Open, the team was geared up to channel their success into rigorous training sessions in preparation for the imminent East Asia Cup 2023.

The team will face stiff competition and the results of the tournament will yield vital data points that will bolster their case for inclusion in the forthcoming 2023 Hangzhou Asian Games.

20.4. Baseball5 Team

20.4.1. WBSC Asia Cup Baseball5

Picking up from where SBSA started with Introducing BB5 to MOE schools, SBSA sent its first ever Baseball5 (Open) Team to represent Singapore at the inaugural WBSC Asia Cup Baseball5 hosted by the Softball Association of Malaysia in August 2022 at the Berjaya Times Square Hotel in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. This Singapore Baseball5 Team comprised a diverse mix of players of various ages, backgrounds, and experience levels which reflected the sport's accessibility. Helmed by Captain Daniel Tam and Vice-Captain Edward Goh, these unique and dedicated individuals came together and trained under challenging conditions leading up to the tournament.

The team performed well securing a historic first win against Pakistan in the Opening Round to proceed to the Super Round. Thereafter, they competed tooth and nail and missed out on a top 4 finish in the game with Team Hong Kong. Team Singapore closed out the competition in 6th place, finishing in strong form with an exciting game with Team Malaysia.

20.4.2. Baseball5 Promotions and Roadshows

After a good showing at the 1st ever Baseball5 Asia Cup, SBSA moved quickly to formulate a plan to promote Baseball5 in the build-up to more tournaments, the next ones being the U-18 Baseball5 Asia Cup in February 2023 and the Youth Olympic Games in Dakar, Senegal in 2026.

With no formal coaching course available, a trainer group was formed to share techniques and strategies to help our teams prepare for the various tournaments. Word was sent out through athletes from the Softball community to invite softballers and non-softballers to play the game

of Baseball5. With the hashtag # Play Anywhere, the trainers prepared a series of roadshows to attract the public's interest. In December 2022, learn to play-cum-training sessions were held at Bishan Sports Club and SUTD basketball courts. In addition, basketball courts were utilised at SportsHub in the hope of introducing this game to the public.

20.4.3. Under-18 Youth Baseball5 Asia Cup

SBSA participated in the U-18 Youth BB5 ASIA Cup qualifiers in Malaysia from 7th to 11th February 2023 at the Berjaya Times Square Hotel in Kuala Lumpur. Seven teams namely China, Korea, Hong Kong, India, Chinese Taipei, Singapore and host Malaysia participated. In the round robin playoff, Team Singapore performed credibly, winning the 2 games against Hong Kong (2-1) and India (2-0). However, in the placement play-off games, we could not capitalise and lost to Hong Kong to finish 6thahead of India.

U-18 Youth Baseball5 Asia Cup

20.4.4. Outreach Program at Republic Polytechnic

Having completed 2 Baseball5 Asia Cup competitions, SBSA continued to reach out to the various Polytechnics and ITE Colleges to promote the game of Baseball5 through road shows.

Republic Polytechnic (RP) was the first such institution which SBSA collaborated with to start the ACTIVE play Baseball5 sessions to introduce the game of Baseball5 to the staff and students of RP. Of the 13 sessions scheduled from April to June 2023, only 4 sessions took place i.e., 2 staff sessions and 2 classes of students (about 30-40 students) led by their lecturers. This was part of the module "Life Skills aka PE" which the students must participate in, which explains the numbers that attended. Though the low turnout was disappointing, the trainers were grateful to RP staff for having reached out and willing to share the game of BB5 to both students and staff.

SBSA will strive to spread the game of Baseball5 as we look towards its inclusion in the Youth Olympic Games in Dakar, Senegal in 2026 and closer to home at the Asian Indoor Martial Arts Games 23 (AIMAG) to be held in Thailand in February 2024.

Outreach Program at Republic Polytechnic

20.5. National Men's Fast Pitch Softball High Performance Elite and Age Group Teams

20.5.1. Softball Men Team Training Session

The National Men's Softball Team continued training at SSI Gym on Monday nights and at Farrer Park on Saturday afternoon from April 2022. When the U-23 Men's and Men's Softball Asia Cup 2022 competition was firmed up, the team stepped up their training with additional training sessions at The Cage on Thursday evenings from March to May 2022. The team shifted Thursday evening training sessions back to Farrer Park to avoid incurring additional costs after the Singapore Recreation Club and Raffles Institution provided the team training field on Saturday afternoon from May to July while the softball diamond was shifted to the football field area at Farrer Park.

20.5.2. Fremantle Rebel Tournament 2022

As mentioned in last year's report, the Men's Team was invited to participate in Perth Fremantle Rebels Tournament in end-May 2022. This was the first overseas competition for the team since the U-18 Men's World Cup 2020. Team Singapore last competed in this tournament in 2019 where they finished 4th. With the hard work put in by the athletes during the pandemic period, the team emerged as runners up in the tournament.

20.5.3. Penang Open 2022

To give the age-group levels some competitive game experience, SBSA then sent the U-23 and U-18 Men's team to participate in the Softball Penang Open. After 3 days of tough matches, the U-23 Men's and U-18 Men's team were the winners and runners up of the tournament.

20.5.4. U-23 Men's and Men's Softball Asia Cup 2022

As the U-23 Men's Softball Asia Cup 2022 was held together with Men's Softball Asia Cup 2022, Team Singapore sent a strong contingent with the target to finish at least 2nd in both competitions so as to qualify for the World Cup.

Singapore U-23 Men Softball team successfully qualified for the World Cup after finishing 2nd after Japan. Singapore Men's team unfortunately fell short of the target by coming 3rd in the competition. Although we beat our fierce neighbour Philippines in a nail-biting game, we surprisingly succumbed to India in a game dominated by heavy rain and poor playing conditions.

U-23 Men's & Men's Asia Cup

20.5.5. Chiang Mai Open Softball Tournament Dec 2022

The Men's team coaches, Coach Farhan and Rouh Jie continued their pathway planning by forming youth teams – U16, U-18 and NSF (National Service Team).

Four teams consisting of 2 U16 teams, 1 U-18 team and 1 NSF team trained from September to December 2022 and participated in the Chiang Mai Open 2022 to give the teams competition exposure and to conclude the team's training for the year. The NSF team emerged 4th in the major category.

20.5.6. U-23 Men's Softball World Cup 2023

After much delay, the tournament was held in Parana, Argentina from 15th to 23rd April 2023. Our credible performances at these various competitions saw the National Men's Softball Team rise in ranking from 15th in 2022 to 14th (as of December 2022) in the WBSC Softball Men World Ranking.

The team was then ranked 12th in the World's after a good showing at the U-23 Men's Softball World Cup.

U-23 World Cup

20.6. National Women's Fast Pitch Softball High Performance Elite and Age Group Teams

20.6.1. Coaching Staff

In August 2022, we welcomed Coach Aiko Nakamura (Japan) to our team of local coaches for the National Women's Fast Pitch Softball Team. With the team preparing for the Asian University Championships in December 2022, the coaches and management team worked together to share the responsibilities of preparing and taking the team to this tournament.

20.6.2. Open Selections

An open selection was also held for all age groups, allowing us to recruit three new players to the open team, with two being eligible for the University Championships. A handful of players were also picked in anticipation of the setup of our Age Group teams as we geared up for the various tournaments in the year.

20.6.3. Local Training Camp

In September 2022, the team held a local training camp. This included a series of team bonding activities to bring the team and coaches together, especially given the new addition of players and a coach. A taping workshop was also organised for a selected group of players (due to space and cost constraints) to learn basic hands-on taping skills for frequent ankle, wrist and other related injuries.

Women's Softball Local Training Camp

20.6.4. Perth Training Trip

In October, the team headed to Perth for an intensive training exchange in preparation for the Asian Universities Championship. This was an eye opener for the team as they had to get accustomed to different playing conditions including the strong winds there.

Women's Softball Perth Training Trip

20.6.5. Asian Universities Championship

The long-awaited Asian Universities Championship came in December 2022, the first official tournament for the National Women's Fast Pitch Softball Team post COVID. Despite players having to switch positions in the run-up to the tournament, with many of our pitchers doubling up as fielders, the team secured 4th position in the tournament. This was a good confidence booster for the many tournaments to come in 2023. Due to Coach Aiko's relationship with the Japanese coaches, we were able to attend a 30 minute clinic run by the Japanese coaches who guided our players on basic fielding and pitching techniques.

Asian Universities Championship

20.6.6. Early 2023 Training

2023 has been a busy one for the National Women's Fast Pitch Softball Team and its Age Group Teams. There were three Asia Cups for each age group (U-15, U-18, and) U-23and the Asian Games to prepare for. This meant many training trips against stronger opponents to prepare us for the games against Asian powerhouses such as reigning Olympic Gold Medallists Team Japan. While training hard for these event, we also had to tackle the lack of training venues for the teams' preparations, given the ongoing construction of Jurong Field and the return of Farrer Park Field. The U-18 team in particular had to deal with their tournament overlapping with their preliminary examinations, among many challenges.

To help us prepare for this, we invited Japanese Pitcher, Naruka, from Sonoda University to Singapore on a short exchange programme (1.5 weeks) where she joined our pitchers for training sessions in January. Our pitchers picked up many valuable tips and training habits from Naruka who shared the training habits inculcated by the Japanese system, as she awed them with her strong physique despite her shy demeanour.

Early 2023 Training

20.6.7. Friendly Games with Puli Middle & High School Teams

In February, we welcomed the Puli Middle School and High School teams as they toured Singapore. While on this tour, weekend games were arranged with them with the help of the coaches and teachers of Catholic High School and River Valley High School. The games were intensive as we split the open team into 2 groups to even out the strength, with a handful of players down with injury. Our team took away many learning points from the games.

Friendly Games with Puli School Teams

20.6.8. Olympic Fun Run

In the same month, the team also participated in the Olympic Fun Run as part of the Asian Games contingent.

Olympic Fun Run

20.6.9. Women's Softball Asia Cup

April came and this was the month of the long awaited Asia Cup. Despite all the arduous preparations, our team was very thin as two of our main players were out of the team due to the injuries. Last minute adjustments were made and the team faced the competition head on. Sadly, the results were far from ideal as we narrowly failed to attain our goal of 6th placing, achieving a mere 7th placing.

However, all these challenges served only to make the team more determined to learn and prepare for Asian Games. The coaches and team also made use of the bad weather in Korea to organise a short 45 min clinic with the Japanese coaches and players. The team broke into groups of pitchers, fielders and batters to focus on these specific areas.

Women's Softball Asia Cup

20.6.10. Friendly Game with Hong Kong Under-15 Team

When the team returned from April, we hosted the Hong Kong team which was here on an exchange trip. Over the weekend, we arranged some friendly games for their team with our U-15 team, as well as some local teams. This marked the first time that the U-15 team played a competitive match as a team, having trained together for the past one month or so.

Friendly Game with Hong Kong U-15 Team

20.6.11. Under-15 Team Bonding Session

As we geared up for the U-15 Asia Cup, we arranged a team bonding session for them in May. After a few months of training, this helped the team to come together and destress right before the games.

Under-15 Team Bonding Session

20.6.12. Friendly Match Between Under-18 and Under-15 Teams

To help the U-15 team prepare for their tournament, we arranged a friendly game against the U-18 team, a fairly new team. This game also allowed the coaches to quickly assess the players and strategise the best way of utilising the available players. It was a good session, allowing interaction between both teams, as we anticipate having some of the U-15s join the U-18s leading up to the tournament in August.

Friendly Match Between U-18 and U-15

20.6.13. Under-15 Asia Cup

As we headed into June, the U-15s started the ball rolling by flying the Singapore flag in Taiwan for the U-15 Asia Cup. It was all jitters and anticipation for the young team at their first overseas tournament. The team failed to defeat Hong Kong, and achieved a 7th position in the tournament. Despite the result, this was a promising start for the young debutantes who put up a good fight in their games.

Under-15 Asia Cup

20.6.14. **<u>Overseas Training Programme</u>**

In the same month, we selected four players from the High Performance team to train with the Chyuko University team in Japan. For two weeks, they trained alongside the top university in Softball in the region. The period happened to be the off season period for the university team, as they rested in anticipation of their new season in August. However, the constant wet weather made this exchange program challenging and slightly limited.

However, the players took away much of the training attitude and discipline from their Japanese counterparts. The most lesson was how our players could replicate the training environment present at the Japanese university in our local training set-up, including how they could balance their study commitments with balance, something which the Japanese players were able to do.

Overseas Training Program

20.6.15. Women's Softball HPE Team Bonding Session

In July, we took the team to reassess our National Women's Fast Pitch Team. The HPE team held their team bonding at Sentosa, which also included a diving lesson on the sand. We also collectively held a Family Day for the families of the U-15s, U-18s and HPE players to come together for some fun and softball. We also introduced the game of softball to some parents to create awareness of what their daughters are training for. A takeaway from the session was that the parents were definitely as competitive as their children.

Women's Softball HPE Team Bonding Session

20.6.16. Training Trip to Puli, Taiwan

Prior to the U-18 Asia Cup, the HPE team travelled to Puli, Taiwan, for 1.5 weeks of training and competition. With a main player pulling out of the team due to injury, it was a trip that allowed the team to reposition the players and figure out what worked best for the team.

Training Trip to Puli, Taiwan

20.6.17. **<u>Under-18 Women Softball Asia Cup</u>**

In August, the U-18s went up to the tournament, headed by Coach Aiko. Despite the short training tenure of 2.5 months, the team went up with high spirits. With the addition of 4 U-15 players who wanted revenge for their loss, the team went to the games with high aim. They eventually lived up to expectations, achieving their goal of 6th placing. However, the team had much more to learn and grow, as we expect them move onto the HPE team over time and become the next pillar of the team. They also managed to secure the same opportunity with a short clinic by the Japanese coaches.

Under-18 Women Softball Asia Cup

20.6.18. The results at these competitions saw the National Women's Softball Team improve in the WBSC Softball Women Ranking from 42nd in late 2022 to 37th in April 2023.

20.7. Slow Pitch Softball (Co-Ed) Team

20.7.1. As part of our efforts to promote inclusivity in sports through Baseball, Baseball5 and Softball, the SBSA formed and sent a team to represent Singapore at the inaugural Asia Cup Slow Pitch Softball (Co-Ed) tournament held in Thailand from 24 to 27 May 2023. Although this was our team's maiden appearance at such a tournament, they performed credibly and narrowly lost to hosts Thailand 6-7. This was a good start to our foray into Slow Pitch for our community.

20.8. Under-12 Mixed Softball Team

20.8.1. **Training Sessions**

The Singapore U-12 softball team overcame a lack of a proper softball field and training facilities for the softball teams since 2017 when the Kallang softball fields were demolished. In 2022 while preparing for the team travelling to Taichung, Taiwan to take part in the 2nd WBSC U-12 Mixed Softball World Cup we had to make use of the remaining Farrer Park fields while construction was going on around us. Nevertheless, the children all gave their best in training using multistorey carparks or whatever space we could find. As many of them had to prepare for PSLE, we had also limited time for training and the children managed to juggle both schoolwork and training.

20.8.2. WBSC Under-12 Mixed Softball World Cup

In Taichung, Taiwan the Singapore U-12 team managed a historic bronze medal for in the 2nd edition of the WBSC U-12 Mixed Softball World Cup and brought home a medal in this age group. This result helped improved the world rankings of both the men's and women's team as it is an official co-ed points event by the World Baseball Softball Confederation. 3 of our players made it to the all-Worlds team.

The team overcame a close 6-7 early group stage lose to Team Hongkong to fight back to the semi-finals, losing to eventual champions Chinese Taipei. This setup a rematch for the bronze medal against Team Hongkong again who had lost the other semi-finals. The bronze medal match ended regulation time tied at 6-6 and after a dramatic tie-breaker inning, Team Singapore eventually winning 9-8 in an extra innings to bring home our first ever medal in this age group world cup.

U-12 Mixed Softball Team

The efforts and achievements of our U-12 Mixed Softball Team were recently recognised at the annual Singapore Sports Awards Night in August, where the team was only one of three teams in the running for the Team of the Year (Sports Boy/Sports Girl) along with the Ice Hockey U-17 Boys' Team and Tchoukball Women's Team.

20.9. Olympic eSports Week in Singapore

20.9.1. <u>Inaugural Olympic eSport Event</u>

Singapore hosted the inaugural Olympic eSport Event at Suntec City from 22nd to 25th June 2023. Baseball was one of the featured eSports and Singapore was represented by Mr Chong Woon Hian, who emerged as the Singapore Baseball eSports champion after a qualifying playoff. On the sidelines of this event, SBSA President, Ms Foo Pei, and Secretary General, Ms Tan Chia Mien, took the opportunity to call on WBSC President, Mr Ricardo Fraccari, and CEO, Mr. Marco Lenna, for a discussion on how we can enhance the development of Baseball, Baseball5 and Softball in Singapore.

Above: President of WBSC Mr. Ricardo Fraccari

Representing Singapore, Chong Woon Hian

21. Multi Year Sports Plan (MYSP)

21.1. With the support of SSI, we continue to make good progress on developing our various National and Age Group teams while enhancing the capabilities of our officials by running various workshops and supporting their involvement in local and regional tournaments.

22. Brand and Reputation

22.1. A new SBSA logo and brand has been designed and has been launched as of the 2nd half of 2022 and will be used as the main identity going forward.

22.2. In lieu of the brand and logo update, the SBSA website has also been redesigned, upgraded and put live as of 1 September 2022.

22.3. Website upgrading works included rebranding, mobile responsive UX redesign, SBSA membership registration and Council-only section with filesharing, among other features and information realignment.

23. Facilities

23.1. The SBSA Jurong Field, after much effort and multiple delays, was partially handed over to SBSA from SportSG in June 2023. The key features of Jurong Field are:-

23.1.1. Location: Jurong East 31, adjacent to the Jurong East Sports Centre;

23.1.2. Facilities:

23.1.2.1. 2 WBSC softball-standard diamonds (Outfield distance of 250ft "Field A"and 238ft "Field B" respectively);

23.1.2.2. Floodlights for evening games on Field A;

23.1.2.3. Sheltered turf-ground training facility "Batting Cage" that measures 20m x 7m, convertible into 4 softball batting lanes or 2 baseball batting lanes.

23.2. The relocation from Farrer Park to Jurong was completed back in February 2023 and while SBSA's lease officially started then, there were several rectification works required, mainly due to the unsatisfactory ground conditions which would have posed a safety concern for our athletes. Some of these rectification works were completed over four months, and since then, our High Performance athletes from both Baseball and Softball teams have been training at Field A and the Batting Cage in preparation for their respective competitions.

23.3. Unfortunately, in view of the partial completion/handover, the SBSA Jurong Field is not yet able to open for public booking. SBSA will strive to work with SportSG's Sports Infrastructure Group to complete the following works:

23.3.1. Complete the astroturfing and installation of soft-pad for Field B;

23.3.2. Complete the Installation of additional spotlights at Field A (Clay Infield);

23.3.3. Complete the Installation of Higher Netting along the Outfield, raising from the current 8-metres to 16 metres.

23.4. As at the date of this Annual Report, SBSA has been informed that the expected date of completion of all works would be December 2023.

23.5. In our next phase, and hopefully by January or February 2024, SBSA would open the field for public booking and hold a Grand Opening involving our affiliates and community, our athletes, SportSG partners and the residents / grassroots.

23.6. We will continue to update the progress on our SBSA Website and/or social media pages for more updates, where applicable.

23.7. We also continue to reach out to corporate and individual sponsors/partnerships to enhance the experience at the field. SBSA are also in the midst of sourcing ideas for the field management, do reach out to us if you should know any of such contacts.

24. Technical and Officiating Development

24.1. Coaching Commission

24.1.1. For the period from April 2022 to August 2023, the Coaching Commission ran two full Level 1 Integrated Courses as part of its long-awaited launch of the SBSA Integrated Coaching Programme. This built on the work started by the Coaching Commission in the previous financial year where existing coaches, whose skills were assessed to be competent, completed the accreditation process so that they were certified as SBSA Level 1 or 2 coaches.

24.1.2. Level 1 Full SBSA Integrated Coaching Course (August 2022) – The Coaching Commission members ran a Level 1 Full SBSA Integrated Coaching Course for aspiring coaches and existing trainers who may already have coaching experience but lack proper certification or were seeking proper certification.

24.1.3. Level 1 Full SBSA Integrated Coaching Course (February 2023) – In response to demand for another run of the Level 1 Full SBSA Integrated Coaching Course, the Coaching Commission conducted its second run of the same course for coaches and trainers.

24.1.4. SBSA is currently in talks with Republic Polytechnic to work with our Coaching Commission to develop and offer the Level 2 Full SBSA Integrated Coaching Course in 2024.

24.2. Umpiring Commission

24.2.1. The Umpire Commission continues to grow the pool of umpires who are up-to-speed with the latest WBSC standards in umpiring by firstly introducing umpiring to aspiring officials and running specific workshops for those who have already started umpiring in one form or another.

24.2.2. SBSA Umpiring Workshop in Singapore (June 2022) – The SBSA Umpiring Commission organised a workshop for aspiring and existing umpires who wanted to stay updated on the latest WBSC Umpiring systems. From this workshop, five newly minted Level 1 National Umpires were certified.

24.2.3. Asia Cup World Cup Asian Qualifiers in Kochi, Japan (August 2022) – Umpiring Commission member, Mr Ahmad Masran, represented at the Asia Cup World Cup Asian Qualifiers in Japan.

24.2.4. SBSA Umpiring Certification in Singapore – Masters Tournament (November 2022) -

24.2.5. BFA Umpiring Clinic in Bangkok, Thailand (November 2022) – The Umpiring Commission nominated and sent Mr Matthew Lee for the BFA Umpires Clinic in Thailand.

24.2.6. WBSC/Softball Asia Umpiring Certification held in conjunction with the Asian Universities Asia Cup in Pattaya, Thailand (December 2022) - Mr Foo Lai Meng, one of the members of our Umpiring Commission, attended and received the WBSC/Softball Asia Umpiring Certification workshop at this workshop. As part of his certification, Mr Foo was also one of the umpires who officiated at this tournament. He is now certified to umpire at international and regional tournaments for WBSC and SA.

24.2.7. WBSC/SA Umpiring Certification held in conjunction with Asia Cup in Incheon, South Korea (April 2023) – Both Umpiring Commission members, Mr Ahmad Masran and Mr Foo Lai Meng, officiated at this tournament, with Mr Masran also attending the WBSC/SA Umpiring Certification at the same time. Mr Masran has since also received his WBSC/SA Umpiring Certification and is now certified to umpire at international and regional tournaments for WBSC and SA.

24.3. Scoring Commission

24.3.1. The Scoring Commission continued to try and grow the pool of scorers familiar with the new WBSC Scoring System and MyBallClub tablet which allows WBSC, regional federations and national associations to score their respective tournaments in a common system. SBSA is also committed to training new officials in Baseball5 as this new discipline grows in popularity.

24.3.2. Inaugural Baseball5 Asia Cup (August 2022) – as this inaugural regional Baseball5 tournament, SBSA sent two officials, Ms Magdelyn Chow and Mr Masran Ahmad, to be certified as Baseball5 officials. Both officials were also involved in the tournament itself and will return to Singapore to share what they have learnt with other aspiring Baseball5 officials.

24.3.3. SBSA Scoring Workshop for National Women's Fast Pitch Softball Team (October 2022) – xxxxx

24.3.4. Masters' Tournament in Singapore (November 2022) – As part of the National Women's Fast Pitch Softball Team's efforts to raise funds and SBSA's efforts to provide opportunities for our national athletes to be equipped with scoring skills, the National Women's Team provided scoring services for the Masters' Tournament in late 2022.

24.3.5. Asian Universities Asia Cup – Softball Asia Scoring Workshop & Asian Universities Asia Cup (December 2022). In the run-up to the Asian Universities Asia Cup Tournament in Thailand, SBSA scorers, Ms Magdelyn Chow and Ms Tan Chia Mien, ran a three-day scoring workshop for Softball Asia in a bid to certify and familiarise Asian scorers with the WBSC Scoring System and the MyBallClub software. The new system and scoring application were subsequently used at the Asian Universities Asia Cup Tournament, with Ms Tan Chia Mien as the Scoring Director and Ms Magdelyn Chow as one of the newly certified Softball Asia scorers for this tournament.

24.3.6. Southeast Asia Student Activities Conference (SEASAC) @ UWC (Dover) (March 2023) – The National Women's Fast Pitch Softball Team was given another opportunity to practise their WBSC scoring skills at the SEASAC event held in Singapore.

24.3.7. Asian Women's Softball Cup in Korea (April 2023) – One of the Scoring Commission members, Ms Tan Chia Mien, represented Singapore as the Scoring Director of the tournament.

24.3.8. XXX1 U-18 Baseball World Cup in Taiwan (late August/early September 2023) – One of the Scoring Commission members, Ms Tan Chia Mien, represented Singapore as an International Scorer at the XXX1 U-18 Baseball World Cup in Taiwan.

25. Anti-Doping

25.1. The SBSA continues to adopt and endorse the Anti-Doping Singapore (ADS) Anti-Doping Rules as well as the rules of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Code and the Anti-Doping Policy of Singapore and the ADS Anti-Doping Rules in respect of SBSA affairs and activities.

26. Safety Policy & Risk Management

26.1. Although all NSAs were required to become Member Organisations to the Safe Sport Programme by 31 March 2023, Singapore Baseball and Softball Association completed the onboarding process by the end of 2022. As of 31 August 2023, SBSA has formulated its Safe Sport Policy and Safeguarding Measures which has since been uploaded to SBSA's website and all full-time staff have completed the Safeguarding Officer Training.

27. Local Sports Events

27.1. There were no local events held; due to to Covid-19 restrictions in the beginning of the year and and a lack of available field.

28. Disciplinary and Appeal

28.1. None

29. Review of Future Plans and Commitments

29.1. As the financial year 2022/2023 ends, we expect the high-tempo experienced in this financial year to into the new financial year.

29.2. The business development plan of Jurong Field had been developed and put into action with strong support from SportSG. The latest projection is that the field will be available in December 2023.

29.3. We have an increase in our staffing with additional budget for a General Manager and a Technical Director in FY2023.

30. External Congress and Meetings

30.1. WBSC Congress,

30.2. BFA Congress and

30.3. SA Congress

Given the Covid situation, both Baseball Federation Asia (BFA) and Softball Asia (SA) decided to hold their congresses alongside the World Baseball and Softball Confederation (WBSC) Congress held in Taiwan in May 2022. SBSA was represented at these meetings by its President, Ms Foo Pei, and its Secretary-General, Ms Tan Chia Mien, who also held informal meetings with their Chinese Taipei, Japanese and Thai counterparts on the sidelines.

31. Affiliation Memberships

31.1. Singapore National Olympic Council (SNOC)

31.2. World Baseball and Softball Confederation (WBSC)

31.3. Baseball Federation of Asia (BFA)

31.4. Softball Asia (SA)

32. Acknowledgements

The SBSA would like to extend its appreciation to the following for their support and help towards making our 2021/2022 programs a success:

32.1. Singapore National Olympic Council

32.2. Sports SG and Singapore Sports Institute for all their subsidies and assistance rendered

Appendix

Annex 1 Council Member Attendance at Council Meetings

April 2022 to March 2024

SN	Council Member	1st Meeting 19.04.2022	2nd Meeting 17.05.2022	3rd Meeting 21.06.2022	4th Meeting 19.07.2022	5th Meeting 23.08.2022	6th Meeting 20.09.2022	7th Meeting 18.10.2022	8th Meeting 29.11.2022	9th Meeting 21.12.2022	10th Meeting 17.01.2023	11th Meeting 28.02.2023	12th Meeting 28.03.2023	Attendance	%
1	Foo Pei													11/12	92
2	Ivan Ng													10/12	83
3	Kan Sook Kuan													5/6	83
4	Tan Chia Mien													10/12	83
5	Jenny Lim													9/12	75
6	Aeran Ismail													5/6	83
7	Senthil Dayalan													5/12	42
8	Chaw Wee Teck													10/12	83
9	Magdelyn Chow													10/12	83
10	Wang Gangyi													10/12	83

SN	Council Member	1st Meeting 18.04.2023	2nd Meeting 30.05.2023	3rd Meeting 27.06.2023	4th Meeting 25.07.2023	5th Meeting 22.08.2023	6th Meeting 26.09.2023	7th Meeting 24.10.2023	8th Meeting 28.11.2023	9th Meeting 26.12.2023	10th Meeting 23.01.2024	11th Meeting 27.02.2024	12th Meeting 26.03.2024	Attendance	%
1	Foo Pei													4/5	80
2	Ivan Ng													3/5	60
3	Kan Sook Kuan													5/5	100
4	Tan Chia Mien													2/5	40
5	Jenny Lim													4/5	80
6	Aeran Ismail													1/5	10
7	Senthil Dayalan													0/3	0
8	Chaw Wee Teck													2/3	67
9	Magdelyn Chow													4/5	80
10	Wang Gangyi													4/5	80