

**International Softball Federation  
Junior Women's World Championship  
Cape Town  
Republic of South Africa  
7 – 17 December 2011**

The time had finally arrived. I'm at Wellington Airport waiting to board one of three flights that will take me to my first Softball World Championship.

- 4 December 2011 - depart Wellington 12.30pm. Arrive in Auckland 1.30pm. Flight duration one hour.
- 4 December 2011 – depart Auckland for Melbourne then on to Dubai at 6.50pm. Arrive in Dubai 5 December 2011 at 5.30am. Flight duration 22 hours.
- 5 December 2011 – depart Dubai for Cape Town, South Africa at 8.50pm. Arrive in Cape Town, South Africa 4.25pm. Flight duration 12 hours.

Softball New Zealand (SNZ) had booked me on Jetstar (Domestic) and Emirates (International) as these airlines' weight allowance better catered for an umpire travelling with a full kit - 30kg for one bag checked-in and 7kg for carry on.

The long haul journey flying with Emirates Airline was made most comfortable with entertainment, food and cabin service provided. Taking into account the flight and transit stopovers time passed with reasonable speed and I was about to land in Cape Town 4.25pm on Monday 5 December.

## **HOSTS**

Hosts.....”O” for “Awesome”! From the time I landed until the time I departed. Transport, meals, security, uniform alterations - anything we needed our hosts accommodated and with so many volunteers, the local organising committee, headed by Noore Nacerodien, were able to cover all aspects of the Junior Women's World Championship (JWWC).

## **ACCOMODATION**

Garden Court De Waal  
Cape Town  
South Africa

A comfortable room with two double beds, a bathroom, TV, internet access and a safe to store valuables.

Meals provided by the hosts – breakfast and dinner.

## **PLAYING COMPLEX**

Turfhall Stadium.

The City of Cape Town – a formidable partner to the JWWC, together with various sponsors like South African Breweries, Media 24, Peninsula Beverages and Pioneer Foods assisted greatly in staging this world class event. A strong cash injection from the National Lottery Distribution Trust Fund (NLDZTF) of R5m (Rand 5,000,000) helped fill the gap to provide this world class facility.

## **ISF UNIFORM (MIZUNO)**

Two ISF caps (plate and base), two ISF shirts, 1 pair of navy blue pants (combo), one navy blue belt, three pairs of ISF socks, one pair of shoes (combo), one shoe bag, one ball bag, one brush and holder.

## **TECHNICAL MEETING**

In attendance:

### **Representing the International Softball Federation (ISF):**

President: Don Porter  
Secretary: Beng Choo Low

### **ISF Technical (Jury):**

Beng Choo Low  
Guillo Marapjane  
Robert Stanton

### **ISF Umpires:**

Robert Stanton – Umpire in Chief (UIC)  
Vincent Maoeng - Deputy Umpire in Chief (DUIC)

Thabo Dikgale (RSA), Ashley Mmakola (RSA), Walter Diaz (ARG), Yvonne Khaler (AUS), Helen Strauss (AUS), Rita Ceuppens (BEL), Abel Mataboge (BOT), Patricia Hamamoto (BRZ), Genevieve Gaudreau (CAN), Tonya Ribalkin Zanon (CAN), Ali Jai (CHN), Zhemin Zhang (CHN), Chao-Chun Huang (TPE), Maria Theresa Mejia (COM), Michal-M Zidek (CZH), Raoul Machal (GER), Shigeo Kamata (JPN), David Shedlock (NZL), Gaby Hernandez (PUR), Alexander Kaverin (RUS), Joen Munsook (KOR) and Christie Cornwell (USA).

### **International Teams:**

Team representatives (up to four) represented 15 competing countries:

USA, Japan, Canada, Australia, Puerto Rico, Chinese Taipei, China, Argentina, New Zealand, Russia, South Africa, Germany, Botswana, Brazil and the Czech Republic.

Passports and bats were checked at this meeting.

### **Competition Rules:**

The 2010-2013 ISF Official Rules of Softball were in force during the tournament.

- ARTICLE 8 RESOLUTION OF TIES
- ARTICLE 12 COMPETITION - players, team uniform, helmets, choice of innings and dugout, reporting to playing site, bats checked, use of diamond, team members on playing field or in dugout, smoking, demonstrations, communication equipment, completion of game, tie breaker, major disruption to playing schedule, protests, twenty(20) second clock, procedures and mechanics
- ARTICLE 14 - EQUIPMENT
- ARTICLE 22 - DOPING CONTROLS.

### **Official Game Ball:**

Mizuno M 150

### **OPENING CEREMONY - Wednesday 7 December 2011**

This event was staged on the No.1 diamond at Turfhall Stadium in front of a packed stadium. A performance from a native cultural group and a brass band created the festival atmosphere. The 15 competing teams marched onto the diamond one team at a time to the playing of each countries national anthem. The 22 ISF umpires followed behind the last team to join the parade. The national anthem of the Republic of South Africa (RSA) was played as they raised three flags for the RSA, ISF, and the city host, Cape Town. The opening speech was made by a representative for the Mayor of Cape Town.

### **Opening Game of the Championships – Wednesday 7 December 2011**

South Africa v Botswana AJ (CHN), SK (JPN), PH (BRZ), WD (ARG), RC (BEL)  
(Four man umpire system - last name indicates the 20 second clock)

**Listed below were my assignments for the JWWC 2011.**

#### **Thursday 8 December:**

Chinese Taipei v Germany DS (NZL), AL (RUS), JM (KOR), ZZ (CHN), SK(JPN)

#### **Friday 9 December:**

Russia v Argentina AM (BOT), ZZ (CHN), DS (NZL), CC (CTP), CC (USA)

#### **Saturday 10 December:**

Chinese Taipei v Brazil MZ (CZH), AM, (SA), PH (BRZ), DS (NZL)  
Botswana v China JM (KOR), DS (NZL), RM (GER), PM (BRZ), ZZ (CHN)

**Sunday 11 December:**

Australia v Germany CC (CTP), AM (BOT), DS (NZL), MM (COL), TR (CAN)  
USA v South Africa GH (PUE), CC (CPT), AM (SA), DS (NZL), TR (CAN)

**Monday 12 December - 6 Man Umpire System: (\* denotes 20 second clock)**

USA v BOTSWANA DS/AK/RM/GH/RC/PH\*TR  
SOUTH AFRICA v CANADA ZZ/AJ/PH/DS/YK/CC\*TR

**Tuesday 13 December:**

CANADA v CHINA YK/AM/JM/CC/GH/DS\*RC  
JAPAN v GERMANY GH/AM/GC/DS/GG/MM\*ZZ  
NEW ZEALAND v SOUTH AFRICA C-C/YK/GH/RM/ZZ/ AK\*DS

**Wednesday 14 December:**

CANADA v CZECH REPB AM/CC/DS/TD/C-C/RC\*MZ  
RUSSIA v GERMANY WD/DS/MT/AM/ZZ\*YK

**Thursday 15 December:**

JAPAN B1v CANADA A2 CC/AJ/PH/WD/DS/MZ\*TR

**Friday 16 December:**

Chinese Taipei v Canada HS/YK/CC/DS/WD/RC\*JM

**Saturday 17 December:**

Chinese Taipei v USA (Bronze) AM/GH/TD/RM/AB/DS\*AK

USA vs Japan (Gold/Silver)  
USA win 4 – 1 over Japan  
HS (AUS) plate  
GG (CAN) 1<sup>st</sup> base  
YK (AUS) 2<sup>nd</sup> base  
TR (CAN) 3<sup>rd</sup> base  
JM (KOR) left field  
PH (BRZ) right field  
\*RC (BEL)

Tournament Games - 16 - (2) plates (14) bases and two clocks.

ISF level of umpiring was adhered to and comparing our New Zealand Umpire Programme to those of other countries at this tournament, I can say, with mechanics, rules, dress , demeanor (on and off diamond), game management and best practice – it is the same worldwide.

The 22 umpires, assembled for the JWWC, approached each game with ENTHUSIASM and HUSTLE and the enjoyment exuded in their performances on diamond. The crew had a 'Bounce ' in their step and when coming off the diamond we would be talking about our games with great excitement, seemingly looking forward to the next game. The next opportunity to umpire softball!

Robert Stanton (Umpire in Chief) and Vincent Moeang (Deputy) evaluated and assessed each crew and a de-brief would be held following the game. A personal report of these evaluations will be made available to each of the umpires at the JWWC and also to their respective National Umpire in Chief in approximately 30 days following the Championship.

Softball New Zealand Umpires' Programme, with our best practiced techniques and standards stood me in good stead for my first world championship and the lasting GOOD impression made by fellow NZ umpires only strengthens our standing in world softball umpiring - our “Mana” is intact.

Everlasting fond memories of my experience are the friendship, camaraderie, sharing of knowledge, hospitality and the high caliber of softball. These all made for a GREAT and FUN tournament.

NO GOODBYES, UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN.....

Homeward bound.....

THANK YOU.

International Softball Federation Umpire.  
David Shedlock (New Zealand)



**Junior Women's World Championship 2011**  
**International Softball Federation Crew**  
Turfhall Stadium, Cape Town, South Africa  
7 - 17 December 2011



Back Row L/R David Shedlock(NZ),Chao;Chun Huang(TPE),Raoul Machalet(GER),Michal Zidek(CZH),Zhemin Zhang(CHN),Alexander Kaverin(RUS),Thabo Dikgale(SA),Garby Hernandez(PUR),Ashley Mmakola(SA),Walter Diaz(ARG),Shigeo Kamataa(JPN),Abel Mataboge(BOT).  
Front Row L/R Patricia Hamamoto(BRZ),Yvonne Khaler(AUS),Rita Ceuppens(BEL),Genevieve Caudreau(CAN),Christie Cornwell(USA),Vincent Maoeng(SA DIC), Robert Stanton(CAN UIC),Maria Theresa Mejia(COL),Joen Munsook(KOR), Helen Strauss(AUS),Tonya Ribalkin-Zanon(CAN),Ali Jai(CHN).