



NEWS RELEASE

World Baseball Classic • 1271 Avenue of the Americas • New York, NY 10020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 6, 2020

ROSTERS AND COACHING STAFFS ANNOUNCED FOR POOL 1 OF WBC QUALIFIER

Hall of Famer Barry Larkin to Manage Team Brazil for Third Time;

Three-Time World Champion Manager Bruce Bochy to Lead Team France;

Former Major Leaguers Steve Finley, LaTroy Hawkins Return as Coaches on Team Brazil Staff;

Six Rosters Feature a Combined 25 Players Affiliated with Major League Clubs

World Baseball Classic, Inc. (WBCI) today announced the rosters and coaching staffs for Pool 1 of the World Baseball Classic Qualifier, which will be played March 13th-18th at Kino Sports Complex in Tucson, Arizona. Pool 1 of the Qualifier will feature the National Teams of Brazil, France, Germany, Nicaragua, Pakistan and South Africa. The top two teams in Pool 1 will advance to compete in the 2021 World Baseball Classic, which marks the fifth installment of the event featuring many of the world's greatest players. For the first time, the WBC will include 20 competing National Teams.

Team Brazil will once again be led by Hall of Fame shortstop Barry Larkin, who led the squad to its first WBC appearance in 2013 after winning the Qualifier in Panama City, Panama in November 2012. Larkin also managed



Team Brazil at the WBC Qualifier played in Brooklyn, New York in September 2016. Former All-Star outfielder Steve Finley will return for a second time as hitting coach and 21-year veteran pitcher LaTroy Hawkins will again serve as the team's pitching coach. The 28-man roster features 10 players affiliated with Major League Clubs, including infielder Dante Bichette (WSH), the son of former Major Leaguer Dante Bichette and brother of Toronto Blue Jays infielder Bo Bichette, as well as right-handed pitchers Igor Kimura (TB), Rodrigo Takahashi (ARI), Heitor Tokar (HOU) and Rafael Viana (TOR); left-handed pitcher Dylan Lee (MIA); outfielders Gabriel Maciel (MIN), Victor Mascal (HOU) and Jean Tome (SEA); and infielder Liam Sabino (STL).

Team France will be managed by legendary Major League manager Bruce Bochy, who retired following the 2019 season after 25 seasons managing the San Diego Padres (1995-2006) and San Francisco Giants (2007-2019). Bochy, who compiled 2,003 career victories and won three World Series titles with the Giants (2010, 2012, 2014) during his managerial career, will be joined on his coaching staff by Giants third base coach Ron Wotus. The 28-

man roster features three players affiliated with Major League Clubs, including right-handed pitcher Jason Alexander (LAA) and infielders Alen Hanson (SEA) and Ernesto Martinez (MIL). In addition, right-handed pitcher Brett Bochy, the son of Bruce, will compete for Team France.

Team Germany will be skippered by Steve Janssen, who has previous World Baseball Classic experience with the Netherlands. Janssen, who served as the country's pitching coach during their gold medal-winning 2011 Baseball World Cup, was the bullpen coach for the Netherlands as the team reached the semi-finals of the 2013 WBC. Germany's 28-man roster features five players affiliated with Major League Clubs, including infielders Marco Cardoso (BOS) and Brendan Donovan (STL); left-handed pitcher Lucas Jacobsen (TEX); and right-handed pitchers Niklas Rimmel (MIN) and Markus Solbach (LAD).

Nicaragua will be led for a second consecutive WBC Qualifier by former Major League outfielder and Nicaragua native Marvin Benard, who played nine seasons in the Majors for the Giants from 1995-2003. Benard, who managed the squad in Mexicali, Mexico in March 2016, set career-highs with 562 at-bats, 163 hits, 36 doubles, 16 home runs, 64 RBI and 27 stolen bases during the 1999 season. He spent the 2015 season as a hitting coach in the Padres organization, helping the Single-A Tri-City Dust Devils of the Northwest League to the league finals. Nicaragua's 28-man roster features five players affiliated with Major League Clubs, including catcher Rodolfo Bone (SF); left-handed pitcher Leonardo Crawford (LAD); infielders Cheslor Cuthbert (CWS), who has spent time in the Majors during each of the last five seasons with the Kansas City Royals, and Jesus Lopez (TOR); and outfielder Ismael Munguia (SF).

Pakistan will be managed for a second consecutive WBC Qualifier by Syed Fakhar Ali Shah. Shah, who also serves as the Executive Director of the Pakistan Baseball Federation, led the country during their WBC debut in the Qualifier played in Brooklyn in September 2016. The squad does not have any players affiliated with Major League Clubs on its 28-man roster.

South Africa, which will be participating in their fifth WBC event, will be managed by Andy Berglund. Berglund, who served as a coach for South Africa during the last round of WBC Qualifiers in Blacktown, Australia in February 2016, previously managed the Czech Republic team during the 2012 WBC Qualifier in Regensburg, Germany. He also served as a coach for the French National Team in the 2014 European Championship. The 28-man roster features two players affiliated with Major League Clubs, including right-handed pitcher Kieran Lovegrove (LAD) and infielder Brendan Venter (ATL). In addition, former Major League infielder Gift Ngoepe and his brother,

Victor, will compete for the South African team. Gift will be competing in his fourth WBC event after participating in the 2009 WBC, as well as the 2012 and 2016 Qualifiers. He was the first-ever player from South Africa to play in the Majors, appearing in 28 games for the Pittsburgh Pirates in 2017, followed by 13 games for the Blue Jays in 2018.

The Qualifier will open on Friday, March 13th with a doubleheader featuring Pakistan vs. Brazil and Germany vs. France. Tickets for all Qualifier games, including day passes for doubleheader days, are available at <https://www.mlb.com/world-baseball-classic/schedule>. The complete schedule of Pool 1 games is as follows:

Game #	Game Date	Local (ET)	Match-up
1	Fri., March 13	12:30 p.m.	Pakistan vs. Brazil
2	Fri., March 13	7:30 p.m.	Germany vs. France
3	Sat., March 14	12:30 p.m.	Game 1 Winner vs. Nicaragua
4	Sat., March 14	7:30 p.m.	Game 2 Winner vs. South Africa
5	Sun., March 15	12:30 p.m.	Game 2 Loser vs. Game 3 Loser
6	Sun., March 15	7:30 p.m.	Game 1 Loser vs. Game 4 Loser
8	Tues., March 17	12:30 p.m.	Game 5 Winner vs. Game 6 Winner*
7	Tues., March 17	7:30 p.m.	Game 3 Winner vs. Game 4 Winner* <i>(Winner Qualifies for 2021 WBC)</i>
9	Wed., March 18	6:00 p.m.	Game 8 Winner vs. Game 7 Loser <i>(Winner Qualifies for 2021 WBC)</i>

Home team in **Bold**

*Home team designation determined by coin toss

Each of the two qualifying pools will feature a nine-game double elimination round with the top two teams from each pool advancing to the World Baseball Classic, scheduled for 2021. The four advancing teams will join the 16 countries – Australia, Canada, China, Chinese Taipei, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Kingdom of the Netherlands, Mexico, Puerto Rico, United States and Venezuela – that received automatic invitations based on their performance in the 2017 tournament.

The Qualifiers were originally introduced prior to the 2013 World Baseball Classic and were held in Germany, Panama, Taiwan and the United States (Jupiter, Florida) during the fall of 2012. Qualifiers in Australia, Mexico, Panama and the U.S. (Brooklyn, N.Y.) were played again prior to the 2017 WBC. The inaugural World Baseball Classic was held in 2006, with ensuing editions in 2009, 2013 and 2017.

Complete rosters for Pool 1 of the Tucson, Arizona Qualifier follows this press release.

###

Contact: John Blundell, Major League Baseball, (212) 931-7878, john.blundell@mlb.com; Chris Dahl, Major League Baseball Players Association, (212) 826-0808; Oscar Lopez, WBSC, +41213188244, [@wbsc](https://twitter.com/wbsc)

ABOUT WORLD BASEBALL CLASSIC, INC.

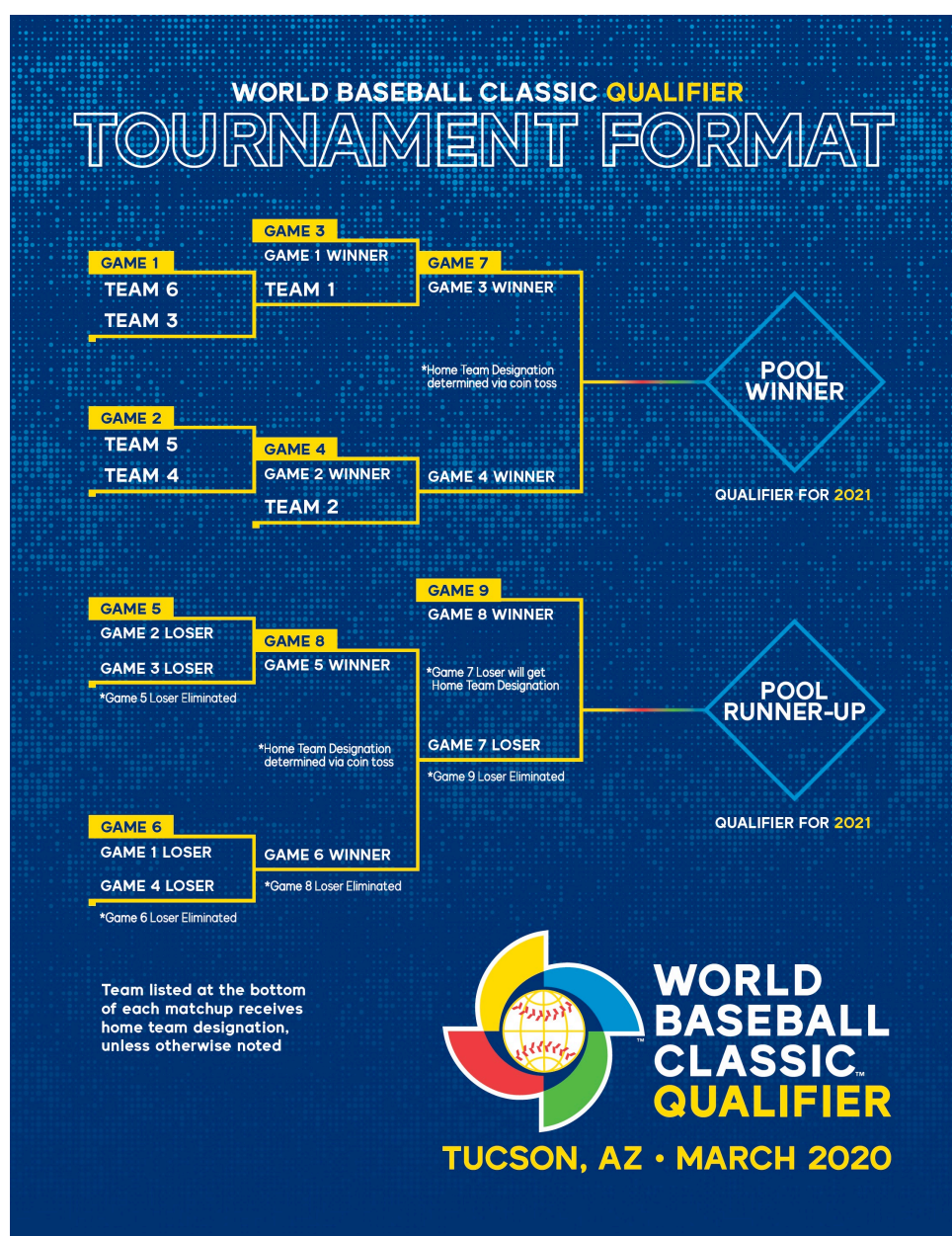
World Baseball Classic, Inc. (WBCI) is a company created at the direction of Major League Baseball (MLB) and the Major League Baseball Players Association (MLBPA) to operate the World Baseball Classic tournament. The tournament, which is sanctioned by the World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC), is supported by MLB, the MLBPA, Nippon Professional Baseball (NPB), the Korea Baseball Organization (KBO), their respective players associations and other leagues and players from around the world.

ABOUT THE WORLD BASEBALL CLASSIC

The World Baseball Classic is the premier international baseball tournament, sanctioned by the World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC), as the sport's official National Team World Championship, and features the best players in the world competing for their home countries and territories. More than 3.4 million fans from all over the world have attended the tournament games, held in March 2006, March 2009, March 2013 and March 2017. Team USA is the reigning World Baseball Classic Champion after beating runner-up Puerto Rico during its 2017 championship run. The upcoming World Baseball Classic will be played in March 2021 and will again feature the greatest baseball-playing nations in the world. The tournament will be held every four years thereafter.

ABOUT THE WORLD BASEBALL SOFTBALL CONFEDERATION

The World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) is the global governing body for the sports of baseball and softball resulting from the merger of the International Baseball Federation and International Softball Federation in 2013. WBSC governs all international competitions, including Premier12, World Baseball Classic and the Baseball World Cups, which involve any of the National Teams of its 208 National Federation members in 141 countries and territories worldwide. For more information, visit www.wbsc.co



BRAZIL

BRAZIL 28-MAN ROSTER

Last	First	Pos.	MLB Org.	Current Club
Arai	Marcelo	RHP	-	-
Bichette	Dante	INF	WSH	Fresno Grizzlies (AAA)
Burin	Felipe	INF	-	-
Carmo	Gabriel	C	-	-
Da Silva	Tiago	RHP	-	-
Fanhoni	Allan	INF	-	-
Fernandes	Rafael	RHP	-	-
Ito	Vitor	INF	-	-
Kikuchi	Marcio	C	-	-
Kimura	Igor	RHP	TB	DSL Rays2 (R)
Kitayama	Keyne	RHP	-	-
Koba	Salomon	INF	-	-
Lee	Dylan	LHP	MIA	Wichita Wind Surge (AAA)
Maciel	Gabriel	OF	MIN	Ft. Myers Mighty Mussels (A)
Mascai	Victor	OF	HOU	GCL Astros (R)
Missaki	Daniel	RHP	-	-
Nakaoshi	Oscar	RHP	-	-
Orlando	Paulo	OF	-	-
Pedrol	Christian	RHP	-	-
Reginatto	Leonardo	INF	-	-
Rienzo	Andre	RHP	-	-
Rojo	Lucas	INF	-	-
Sabino	Liam	INF	STL	State College Spikes (A)
Sales	Felip	RHP	-	-
Takahashi	Rodrigo	RHP	ARI	Arizona Diamondbacks (MLB)
Tokar	Heitor	RHP	HOU	GCL Astros (R)
Tome	Jean	OF	SEA	Everett AquaSox (A)
Viana	Rafael	RHP	TOR	DSL Blue Jays (R)

BRAZIL COACHING STAFF

Last	First	Position	MLB Org.
Larkin	Barry	Manager	CIN
Finley	Steve	Hitting Coach	-
Hawkins	LaTroy	Pitching Coach	MIN
Noboa	Joel	Bench Coach	CIN
Caldeira	Jose Thiago	Bullpen Catcher	
Guimaraes	Marcos	Coach	-
Camargo	Luis	Bullpen Catcher	-
Cunningham	Sean	Athletic Trainer	-



FRANCE 28-MAN ROSTER

Last	First	Pos.	MLB Org.	Current Club
Acuna	Ivan	C	-	-
Alexander	Jason	RHP	LAA	Rocket City Trash Pandas (AA)
Amoros	Lilian	RHP	-	-
Auguste	Donato	RHP	-	-
Bochy	Brett	RHP	-	-
Boucheron	Jacques	OF	-	-
Brown	Felix	UTI	-	-
Camacho	Yoimer	RHP	-	-
Cespedes	Leonel	RHP	-	-
Clara	Robyn	RHP	-	-
Gleeson	Dylan	C	-	-
Habeck	Marc Andre	RHP	-	-
Hanson	Alen	INF	SEA	Tacoma Rainiers (AAA)
Hanvi	Frederic	OF	-	-
Jongerius	Norbert	OF	-	-
Lopez	Yorfrank	RHP	-	-
Martinez	Ernesto	INF	MIL	Rocky Mountain Vibes (R)
Moore	Eric	RHP	-	-
Murrey	James	RHP	-	-
Oliveros	Rayner	RHP	-	-
Ozanich	Owen	RHP	-	-
Paz	Andy	C	-	-
Perdomo	Alexander	INF	-	-
Pontiac	Ismail	LHP	-	-
Soriano	Ariel	INF	-	-
Vaugelade	Yoann	RHP	-	-
Walter	Frederic	INF	-	-
Zan	Mael	OF	-	-

FRANCE COACHING STAFF

Last	First	Position	MLB Org.
Bochy	Bruce	Manager	-
Bochy	Bjoe	Bench Coach	-
Perez	Keino	Pitching Coach	-
Rothermundt	Boris	Coach	-
Smith	Steve	First Base Coach	-
Wotus	Ron	Third Base Coach	SF
Lackmeche	Theo	Bullpen Catcher	-
Kuntz	Lee	Athletic Trainer	-

Deutschland

GERMANY 28-MAN ROSTER

Last	First	Pos.	MLB Org.	Current Club
Amon	Pascal	OF	-	-
Brenk	Eric	INF	-	-
Cardoso	Marco	INF	BOS	GCL Red Sox (R)
Donovan	Brendan	INF	STL	Palm Beach Cardinals (A)
Ehmcke	Maik	OF	-	-
Grigsby	Logan	RHP	-	-
Guhring	Simon	C	-	-
Jacobsen	Lucas	LHP	TEX	Down East Wood Ducks (A)
Koch	Sascha	RHP	-	-
Kotowski	Kevin	OF	-	-
Larry	Shawn	OF	-	-
Lutz	Donald	INF	-	-
Marquez	Enorbel	LHP	-	-
Maxwell	Bruce	C	-	-
Moorer	Demetrius	OF	-	-
Rimmel	Niklas	RHP	MIN	GCL Twins (R)
Schmidt	Alexander	INF	-	-
Schuller	Sven	RHP	-	-
Schulz	Philip	RHP	-	-
Solbach	Markus	RHP	LAD	Oklahoma City Dodgers (AAA)
Sommer	Luke	LHP	-	-
Spann	Julius	RHP	-	-
Stahlman	Tim	RHP	-	-
Thaqi	Benjamin	RHP	-	-
Thieben	Daniel	RHP	-	-
Von Schamann	Dalton	RHP	-	-
Wilhelm	Maurice	RHP	-	-
One Roster Spot TBD				

GERMANY COACHING STAFF

Last	First	Position	MLB Org.
Janssen	Steve	Manager	-
Cichocki	Clemens	Coach	-
Beckman	Bernard	Coach	-
Deuren	Kris	Coach	-
Williams	Troy	Coach	NYN
Winkler	Markus	Coach	-
Ahrens	Vincent	Bullpen Catcher	-
Wright	Dan	ATC	-

NICARAGUA

NICARAGUA 28-MAN ROSTER

Last	First	Pos.	MLB Org.	Current Club
Alegria	Benjamin	INF	-	-
Alen	Luis	C	-	-
Benard	Isaac	RHP	-	-
Bermudez	Jimmi	RHP	-	-
Bone	Rodolfo	C	SF	AZL Giants Orange (R)
Britton	Dwight	OF	-	-
Bucardo	Jorge	RHP	-	-
Bucardo	Wilber	RHP	-	-
Calderon	Jilton	OF	-	-
Castellon	Luis	INF	-	-
Castro	Ofilio	INF	-	-
Crawford	Leonardo	LHP	LAD	Tulsa Drillers (AA)
Cuthbert	Cheslor	INF	CWS	Charlotte Knights (AAA)
Espinoza	Berman	RHP	-	-
Flores	Fidencio	RHP	-	-
Garcia Picardo	Sheyder	LHP	-	-
Garcia	Elvin	LHP	-	-
Garrido	Jesus	RHP	-	-
Gutierrez	Elias	RHP	-	-
Leon	Nelson	RHP	-	-
Lopez	Jesus	INF	TOR	New Hampshire Fisher Cats (AA)
Marin	Ivan	INF	-	-
Munguia	Ismael	OF	SF	San Jose Giants (A)
Reyes	Elmer	INF	-	-
Teller	Carlos	LHP	-	-
Tellez	Junior	RHP	-	-
Valle	Norlando	OF	-	-
Vasquez	Wuillians	INF	-	-

NICARAGUA COACHING STAFF

Last	First	Position	MLB Org.
Bernard	Marvin	Manager	-
Guido	Sandor	Bench Coach	-
Murillo	Cairo	Pitching Coach	-
Roa	Jenry	Bullpen Coach	-
Roa	Yader	Coach	-
Sanchez	Julio	Coach	-
Estrada	Rafael	Bullpen Catcher	-
Pena	Manny	Athletic Trainer	DET

PAKISTAN

PAKISTAN 28-MAN ROSTER

Last	First	Pos.	MLB Org.	Current Club
Afridi	Syed Amin	INF/RHP	-	-
Ali	Asad	INF	-	-
Ali	Jawad	INF	-	-
Ansari	Iyad	C	-	-
Asghar	Amir Bernard	RHP	-	-
Bhatti	Umair Imdad	C	-	-
Bilal	Muhammad Ahsan	RHP	-	-
Butt	Adnan	OF	-	-
Chaudhery	Omar Idrees	RHP	-	-
Ehsan	Muhammad	RHP	-	-
Farid	Ahsan	RHP	-	-
Hussain	Faqir	INF	-	-
Hussain	Muhammad	INF	-	-
Jamashaid	Arsalan	INF	-	-
Javed	Muhammad Taimoor	RHP	-	-
Khan	Adam	RHP	-	-
Khan	Inayat Ullah	RHP	-	-
Muhammad	Wali	RHP	-	-
Nadeem	Tariq	OF	-	-
Sadiq	Muhammad	OF	-	-
Shah	Syed Ali	RHP	-	-
Shah	Syed Muhammad	C	-	-
Ur Rehman	Fazal	OF	-	-
Usman	Muhammad	LHP	-	-
Virk	Abubakar	RHP	-	-
Zakir	Muhammad	INF	-	-
Zawar	Muhammad Sumair	OF	-	-
Zohaib	Muhammad	LHP	-	-

PAKISTAN COACHING STAFF

Last	First	Position	MLB Org.
Shah	Syed Fakhar Ali	Manager	-
Ahmed	Usman	Coach	-
Bhatti	Amir Imdad	Coach	-
Butt Basit	Murtaza	Coach	-
Shaffer	Danny	Coach	-
TBD		Coach	-
Asad	Muhammad	Bullpen Catcher	-
Alvidrez	Juavier	Athletic Trainer	-

SOUTH AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA 28-MAN ROSTER

Last	First	Pos.	MLB Org.	Current Club
Baglione	Tyrone	INF	-	-
Baylis	Derick	RHP	-	-
Blount	Adrian	OF	-	-
Boltman	Darren	INF	-	-
Botha	Kyle	C	-	-
Bouillon	Brandon	C	-	-
Cahill	Garth	RHP	-	-
Cree	Kieran	RHP	-	-
Ebersohn	Rowan	LHP	-	-
Elario	Jared	RHP	-	-
Feldtman	Dayle	C	-	-
Jacobs	Dean	LHP	-	-
Lewis-Walker	Robert	RHP	-	-
Lovegrove	Kieran	RHP	LAD	Tulsa Drillers (AA)
Matthee	Haydn	OF	-	-
Moore	Kieran	LHP	-	-
Ngoepe	Gift	INF	-	-
Ngoepe	Victor	INF	-	-
Norman	Andrew	OF	-	-
Phillips	Jonathan	INF	-	-
Ripepi	Jayson	RHP	-	-
Smith	Benjamin	OF	-	-
Smith	Brandon	LHP	-	-
Smith	Darryn	RHP	-	-
Smith	Tyler	INF	-	-
Townend	Kevin	RHP	-	-
Unsworth	Dylan	RHP	-	-
Venter	Brendan	INF	ATL	Rome Braves (A)

SOUTH AFRICA COACHING STAFF

Last	First	Position	MLB Org.
Berglund	Andy	Manager	-
Bennett	Gavin	Coach	-
Gravenorst	Chad	Coach	-
Horsman	Vince	Coach	TOR
Johnstone	Kevin	Coach	-
Perez	Fernando	Coach	-
Milne	Tyrone	Bullpen Catcher	-
Oloski	Kevin	Athletic Trainer	-