World Baseball Classic – Facts Sheet

WBC Website -  http://web.worldbaseballclassic.com/index.jsp

SF Giants Players on WBC Rosters

Jeremy Affeldt – USA
Santiago Casilla – Dominican Republic
Javier Lopez – Puerto Rico
Jose Mijares – Venezuela
Angel Pagan – Puerto Rico
Sergio Romo – Mexico
Pablo Sandoval – Venezuela
Marco Scutaro – Venezuela
Ryan Vogelsong – USA
Hensley Meulens - Managing Netherlands

Pools and Venues

First Round, Pool A in Japan - March 2-6
- Japan
- China
- Cuba
- Brazil
First Round, Pool B in Taiwan - March 2-5
- South Korea
- Netherlands
- Australia
- Chinese Taipei
First Round, Pool C in Puerto Rico - March 7-10
- Venezuela
- Puerto Rico
- Dominican Republic
- Spain
First Round, Pool D in Phoenix - March 7-10
- USA
- Mexico
- Italy
- Canada

Second Round, Pool 1 in Tokyo – March 8-12
- Pool A winner and runner-up
- Pool B winner and runner-up
Second Round, Pool 2 in Miami – March 12-16
- Pool C winner and runner-up
- Pool D winner and runner-up

Semifinals and Finals at AT&T Park, San Francisco – March 17-19
- Pool 1 winner and runner-up
- Pool 2 winner and runner-up
Teams and Key Info

Team Australia

Key Players – Luke Hughes, Peter Moylan, Ryan Rowland-Smith

- In their opening game in 2009, Team Australia defeated Mexico 17-7 and set a new tournament record for hits in a game with 22, including four home runs.

Team Brazil

- Has a Hall of Fame Player in Barry Larkin as their Manager.
- Brazil got its first Major Leaguer this year, when Yan Gomes debuted for the Blue Jays.

Team Canada

Key Players – Brett Lawrie, Russell Martin, Justin Morneau

- Have 12 Major League players from 2012 on their roster.
- Two of Canada’s best talents include 2010 National League MVP Award winner Joey Votto (potentially on roster) of the Cincinnati Reds and 2006 American League MVP Award winner Justin Morneau of the Minnesota Twins.

Team China

- Chinese catcher Wei Wang became the first player to hit a homerun in the World Baseball Classic in Team China’s first round game against eventual champion Japan in 2006.

Team Chinese Taipai

Key Players – Wei-In Chen, Chien-Ming Wang

- Chinese Taipai has two players in the big leagues this season. Orioles’ rookie Wei-Yin Chen has established a place in his team’s rotation, while MLB veteran Chien-Ming Wang has been battling injuries with the Nationals.

Team Cuba

Key Players - Alfredo Despaigne, Frederich Cepeda

- Their strength is in their outfield where they have Alfredo Despaigne, a 26-year old outfielder for Granma Alazanes, is right handed and has twice set the single-season home run record in Cuba. Also, Frederich Cepeda is a 31-year-old outfielder for Sancti Spiritus, a switch hitter with power, average, and a good eye. In the 2009 WBC he was one of the best hitters in the tournament, going 12-for-24, with three home runs.
- In the 2006 World Baseball Classic, Cuba lost to Japan in the Championship Game.
Team Dominican Republic

Key Players – Adrian Beltre, Robinson Cano, Santiago Casilla, Nelson Cruz, Alexi Ogando, Hanley Ramirez, Jose Reyes, Carlos Santana, Edinson Volquez

- Their potential infield of Edwin Encarnacion, Robinson Cano, Hanley Ramirez and Adrian Beltre combined to hit 135 home runs in 2012.

Team Italy

Key Players – Jason Grilli, Nick Punto, Anthony Rizzo

- In the 2006 World Baseball Classic, Italy won their first game by defeating Australia 10-0 in a mercy rule shortened seven inning game.
- Alex Liddi of the Seattle Mariners, who played for Team Italy in the 2009 World Baseball Classic, is the first Italian-born and developed player to play in the Major Leagues.

Team Japan Facts

Key Players – Shinnosuke Aber, Kenta Maeda

- Kenta Maeda, the 24-year-old won the Sawamura award in 2010, the Japanese equivalent to the Cy Young Award.
- Shinnosuke Abe is still the catcher and he will be a major threat on offense with his ability to hit for power and average. He was named the MVP of the 2009 Japan Series and has been a member of the national team since 1999.
- Japan has won the first two WBC tournaments.
- Japan will enter the 2013 WBC without a Major League Player on their roster

Team Korea

- In the 2009 World Baseball Classic, Team Korea led the tournament in RBI, runs scored, and shutouts pitched and advanced to the Championship Game of the tournament against defending Champion, Team Japan.

Team Mexico

Key Players – Yovani, Gallardo, Adrian Gonzalez, Sergio Romo

- There are currently 16 players from Mexico in the Major Leagues including Yovani Gallardo of the Milwaukee Brewers.
Team Netherlands

Key Players – Xander Boegarts, Andrew Jones, Jair Jurrjens, Jurickson Profar, Andrelton Simmons

- Giants hitting coach Hesley “Bam Bam” Meulens will be their manager.
- In the 2006 World Baseball Classic, pitcher Shairon Martis no-hit Panama to give the Kingdom of the Netherlands a 10-0 win in a mercy rule shorted game and their only victory of the tournament.
- Have two of the best shortstop prospects in all of baseball on their squad with the Braves Andrelton Simmons and the Rangers Jurickson Profar. Also, top infield prospect Xander Boegarts (Red Sox).

Team Puerto Rico

Key Players – Carlos Beltran, Javier Lopez, Yadier Molina, Angel Pagan, Alex Rios, Javier Vazquez

- There are currently 15 Puerto Ricans with Major League Clubs including Carlos Beltran and Yadier Molina of the St. Louis Cardinals.

Team Spain

- Spain's most-prized talent, Alejandro Sanchez, signed a seven-year deal with the Atlanta Braves prior to the 2010 season. Sanchez, an infield prospect from Valencia, Spain, inked the contract at the age of 17.

Team USA Facts

Key Players – Jeremy Affeldt, Ryan Braun, Adam Jones, Joe Mauer, Kris Medlen, Brandon Phillips, Jimmy Rollins, Mike Stanton, Mark Teixeira, Ryan Vogelsong, David Wright

- The US has the most Major League All Stars on their roster (15) and could potentially have an All Star at every position on the field at one time.
- The American team owns a 7-7 record in the first two WBC tournaments.

Team Venezuela Facts

Key Players – Elvis Andrus, Asdrubal Cabrera, Miguel Cabrera, Carlos Gonzalez, Felix Hernandez, Anibal Sanchez, Pablo Sandoval, Marco Scutaro

- World Series MVP Pablo Sandoval and 2012 American League MVP Miguel Cabrera grew up roughly 30 miles from each other in Venezuela and the 2013 WBC will be their first opportunity to play on the same team together.
- Venezuela has the second most Major League All Stars on their roster (11) and could potentially have seven All Stars on the field at one time.