

ISF - International Softball Federation (historical)



Softball was developed by George Hancock of the Farragut Boat Club in Chicago in 1887. It was initially an indoor version of baseball. In 1895, the game was first played outdoors in Minneapolis. In the early days, there were various names for the game (kitten ball, diamond ball, etc.). The name softball was introduced in 1926 by Walter Hakanson. In the 1920s and 1930s learned the sport increasing popularity, especially in the U.S., which resulted in the foundation of the Amateur Softball

Association of America (ASA) in 1933.

Indeed, it was the foundation of the **International Softball Federation (ISF)** in 1952, but the association did no activity until 1962. This year, three members of the Australian Women's Softball Council met with Don E. Porter, the executive director of the ASA and discussed the possibility of an international tournament. Finally, representatives from Australia, Canada, Japan, and the United States agreed to carry out a world championship. During this tournament, the ISF adopted a constitution and elected a president for the first time. After 1965, the women had played their first world championship, the men followed a year later.

2013 the ISF had 124 member federations.

To improve their chance of returning to the Olympic program, IBAF and ISF (International Softball Federation) began talks about unification process in 2011. This process ended 2014 with the inaugural congress of the new association **World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC)**.

Presidents

1952 - 14.02.1965	-----
14.02.1965 - 22.06.1987	W.W. "Bill" Kethan USA
22.06.1987 - 26.10.2013	Don E. Porter USA
26.10.2013 - 14.05.2014	Dale McMann CAN

Secretaries General

1952 - 14.02.1965	-----
14.02.1965 - 22.06.1987	Don E. Porter USA
22.06.1987 - 24.10.2009	Andrew S. Loechner jr. USA
24.10.2009 - 14.05.2014	Low Beng Choo MAS