

Softball and Other Athletic Activities

棒球在台灣是很普遍的球類運動，尤其是台灣人，這應歸功於日治時代的引進及推廣。從小學開始就有校隊在本地參加棒球賽，勝者可以參加全島性的比賽，進一步可以代表台灣參加全世界的少棒賽。到了世界杯時，全台灣都半夜起來看少棒賽。台灣的少棒隊在美國賓州威廉波特得了好幾次冠軍，把台灣之名打響於世界。對棒球賽的興奮感，常是許多人小時候難忘的回憶。台灣人對棒球的熱衷，好像生來就已在血液裏流著。

1960年代，很多台灣的大學畢業生到美國讀研究所，大部分是有獎學金的理工科學生。因為不需要打工，週末及假期較有時間與同學或同鄉聚在一起，因為壘球（軟式棒球）的場地設備及球具要求不高，危險性低，加上小時候台灣的記憶，壘球成為在美國的台灣人一個很普遍的活動。

參加台灣人的壘球隊，有機會認識新來的同鄉，可聽到從台灣來的新聞，進一步討論不同的問題。有小孩的家庭，在這裡找玩伴，沒結婚的男女，在這裡很自然地結交新朋友。

在大學城及大都市成立同鄉會後，壘球比賽成為一個很重要的活動。不但用此吸引許多人來參加同鄉會，很多參加壘球隊的成員，後來都成為同鄉會的領導者。

美國地廣，為了聯誼附近幾州的同鄉，常利用暑假期間，舉辦壘球比賽。外州的同鄉得有機會全家開車旅行，見老朋友，認識新朋友。壘球比賽通常是各地組織合辦活動中的一個節目，如同鄉夏令會的中西部壘球錦標賽 或美東...等等。

1. 平原區台灣獨立杯壘球大賽 Taiwan Independence Cup Softball Tournament :

團體球類活動是最可能聯絡球員之間的感情，所以堪薩斯州立大學台灣同鄉會邀請剛從台灣來美國的留學生參加壘球運動是最好的接觸點的開始。

堪薩斯州立大學台灣同鄉會與堪薩斯大學（85 英哩），威奇他大學（131 英哩），堪薩斯市（121 英哩），托畢卡市（57 英哩。台灣同鄉會于1969年開始有壘球錦標賽，早期只有兩個大學的對抗賽。請參閱 <http://Taiwan.thejmaker.com>。內中有44屆比賽結果。

想當年，堪薩斯州立大學（KSU）台灣同鄉教授及專業人士有黃金來，刁明華，張振盛，林啓東，許淳，張洋銘，陳樹人，黃淑宜等諸多夫婦家庭積極參與台灣同鄉會事務及壘球隊；堪薩斯大學（KU）台灣同鄉教授及專業人士有吳得民，游伯龍，張洋川，吳振彥，王進益等夫婦，尤其是游伯龍教授是壘球隊的領隊多年。威奇他大學隊（WSU）一向由鍾茂萃教授及許金壽夫婦領軍，更多同鄉夫婦，吳敬次，林吉雄支持。堪薩斯市有張錫清，林慶勝，高川，郭丕明，劉俊彥，李賜隆，楊英育，楊理典，楊廣平經常性的支持。托畢卡市（Topeka）過去是林國維領軍，李嵩斌，許信夫，許武正，葉明榮，陳德明，陳珠琦及蔡嘉訓諸醫生夫婦支持。Iowa U 一向是童昭男教授帶隊，Iowa. State U 由宋教授帶隊（S.W.Sung），U.Missouri -Columbia 由 A.Chang，其他大部分球隊都是青年留學生台灣同學會會長領軍。

早期KSU與KU的對抗賽逐步擴大為堪薩斯州五大地區的年度盛事，通常是美國勞動節日的星期六舉行，並且輪流在五地區開賽，正式名稱為"平原區台灣人壘球賽"。

隨後臺灣留學生來美國深造者愈來愈少，再加上各地區同鄉年齡增長，退休遷堪薩斯州愈來愈多。堪薩斯州的台灣留學生愈來愈少，到了影響組成壘球隊的程度。為了讓這個壘球比賽繼續，張錫清開始向外州募隊，並定名為"台灣獨立杯壘球賽"，幸而有台灣基金會繼續支持，這個壘球大賽囊括南至奧克拉哈嗎州，并南下德州，北至明尼疏達及威斯康幸州，東至伊利諾州及印第安納州。大半

美國中部地區均有壘球隊來到堪薩斯市。

46年來，曾經參與比賽的隊伍共有25隊：TAKC (27次), TAKC-2 (3), TAKC-women (1), KSU (19次), KU (17), WSU(18), UMKC (24) Topeka (7), PSU (1), Fontbonne College (1), Iowa State (18), Minnesota (2), Iowa U (6), U Missouri-Columbia (15), Indiana State (7), U Illinois- UC (6), U Illinois -UC - B team (1), Wisconsin (2), Oklahoma City University (3), U. Oklahoma City (3), Central Missouri State (1), Dallas , Texas (the Strikes, and the Tigons) (3), U Texas -Dallas (1), Shin-fu Company (3), St. Louis Taiwanese (4), Chicago Formosa Bears (2).

歷年來大賽冠軍隊伍及次數為：KSU (16), KU (9), TAKC (6), UMKC (6), Iowa State (3), Wichita State (3), Dallas ,Texas (2), U Illinois - UC (1), Chicago Formosa Bears (1)

以上數據取自所附之報表，(Kansas softball tournament records) . 希望此項比賽能一直持續進行。

Taiwan Independence Cup Softball Tournament Records						
Number	Year	location	Total	Teams (in order of final results)		
				Champion	2nd	3rd
1st	1969	Manhattan, KS	2	KSU	KU	
2nd	1970	Lawrence, KS	2	KU	KSU	
3rd	1971	Manhattan, KS	2	KSU	KU	
4th	1972	Lawrence, KS	2	KSU	KU	
5th	1973	Manhattan, KS	2	KU	KSU	
6th	1974	Lawrence, KS	2	KU	KSU	
7th	1975	Manhattan, KS	2	KU	KSU	
8th	1976	Lawrence, KS	2	KSU	KU	
9th	1977	Manhattan, KS	2	KSU	KU	
10th	1978	Lawrence, KS	2	KSU	KU	
11th	1979	Manhattan, KS	2	KU	KSU	
12nd	1980	Lawrence, KS	2	KU	KSU	
13rd	1981	Manhattan, KS	2	KSU	KU	
14th	1982	Lawrence, KS	2	KU	KSU	
15th	1983	Manhattan, KS	2	KSU	KU	
16th	1984	Lawrence, KS	2	KU	KSU	
17th	1985	Manhattan, KS	2	KSU	KU	
18th	1986	Lawrence, KS	2	KSU	KU	
19th	1987	Wichita, KS	3	WSU	KSU	KU
20th	1988	Manhattan, KS	3	KSU	WSU	KU
21th	1989	Lawrence, KS	3	KSU	KU	WSU
22nd	1990	Topeka (by TAKC)	5	KSU	WSU	KU
23rd	1991	Manhattan, KS	5	KSU	KU	WSU
24th	1992	Wichita, KS	5	KSU/KU*		WSU
25th	1993	Olathe, KS	8	KSU	PSU	UMKC
26th	1994	Olathe, KS	9	WSU	KU	UMKC
27th	1995	Manhattan, KS	8	TAKC-1	UM-C	KSU
28th	1996	Topeka	8	WSU	UM-C	KSU
29th	1997	Columbia, MO	6	TAKC	KU	UM-C
30th	1998	Olathe, KS	8	KU	TAKC	KSU
31th	1999	Olathe, KS	6	Iowa State	TAKC	WSU

32nd	2000	Olathe, KS	6	UMKC	Iowa State	TAKC
33rd	2001	Olathe, KS	6	UMKC	Iowa State	TAKC
34th	2002	Olathe, KS	6	UMKC	Iowa State	TAKC
35th	2003	Olathe, KS	9	Iowa State	TAKC	UMKC
36th	2004	Olathe, KS	9	U ILL UC	UMKC	Iowa State
37th	2005	Olathe, KS	8	UMKC	U ILL UC	WSU
38th	2006	Olathe, KS	10	UMKC	Iowa State	U ILL UC
39th	2007	Olathe, KS	8	Dallas Strikes	UMKC	UM-C
40th	2008	Olathe, KS	8	Dallas Tigons	Okla City U	Indiana St
41st	2009	Olathe, KS	5	UMKC/ShinFu	Dallas Tigons	Iowa State
42nd	2010	Olathe, KS	5	TAKC	UMKC	Indiana St
43rd	2011	Olathe, KS	4	Iowa State	TAKC	Indiana St
44th	2012	Olathe, KS	6	TAKC	UMKC/KU	U ILL UC
45th	2013	Olathe, KS	6	TAKC	Iowa State	UMKC
46th	2014	Olathe, KS	5	TAKC	UMKC /KU	Iowa State
47th	2015	Olathe, KS	6	Chicago Formosa Bears	TAKC	Iowa State

張錫清寫於KS, 10/2015

2. 紐澤西壘球錦標賽：

3. 紐約區教會壘球賽：

由紐約區台灣教會聯合會於一九八二年八月在皇后區的Allen Park，舉辦首屆比賽。共有六個教會派出十多支球隊。

摘自 台灣公論報

4. 福爾摩莎杯壘球賽：

1974年多倫多台灣同鄉會另起爐灶創立了“福爾摩莎杯”壘球賽”以杯為主軸號召北美各地的球隊來參加,其穩定與持續的成長,有口皆碑!回溯40年來的大獎杯的冠軍爭奪歷史,泰半由美國隊稱霸奪魁,其中Detroit的Demons 八次奪得冠軍頭銜,曾有蟬聯過四屆冠軍之記錄, East Lansing 的 Spartans則有六屆冠軍之記錄。美國隊於2006年由San Francisco 的Falcons贏得冠軍後,就逐漸縮影蹤.諒因第二代在事業與家庭的雙重壓力下,難以分身來參加球賽吧!

其中Detroit則每年都有派隊來助陣。最值得一提的是Demons的創隊隊員之一Paul Tsai與夫人去巴西參加2001世台會時,不幸車禍罹難,夫人幸好免於大難。在2008年的福爾摩莎壘球賽時,筆者在球場上與蔡夫人及其兩男David & Dean會面,蔡夫人娓娓道出當年車禍之慘遇,她的臉及全身都有瘡疤,於是嗚咽不已。她是一位堅強的台灣女性,為紀念其亡夫 Paul (據夫人陳述其夫Paul一生最喜歡打棒球),所以她很慎重的耳提面命交代David & Dean當多倫多的福爾摩莎壘球賽時,無論如何繁忙,一定要趕來參加我們的球賽,資以悼念其亡父在天之靈,誠令人感動肺腑!職是David和Dean每年為悼念其亡父都按例來參加我們的球賽,我們都非常珍惜這份台灣人壘球之感人的故事,特地在此與大家分享這份珍貴的歷史,也希望Paul能在九泉之下安息。直到2010年因重大事故發生,蔡家的David & Dean從此影蹤杳然。每年的球賽時,我們都會連想到蔡家與福爾摩莎杯之珍貴的歷史的一頁!

2015年的球賽共有40隊來參加,在多倫多的Milliken Community Park 盛大舉行了三天(8/3~8/5)的大賽,約有400名的鄉親趕來參加看熱鬧;能看到更多鄉親來參加,2016年在福爾摩莎杯球賽場上見面。

呂俊廷寫於加拿大, 03/2008

5. 美東台灣壘球聯盟 (Formosan Softball League in Eastern America) :

早年赴美留學生以紐約州為最多，因球員與球隊的快速增加，對球賽之需求甚高，有心之同鄉為容納各地的球隊，不得不把組織擴大，乃思以聯盟 (League) 的方式，把眾多球隊組織起來，作有系統之運作，終於成立了美東台灣壘球聯盟 (Formosan Softball League in Eastern America)。

旗下有四支部：Eastern Division、Western Division、Southern Division和Northern Division

涵蓋地區包括：Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island等所謂新英格蘭州 (New England)，及 New York, New Jersey等數州。當時Boston附近就有數隊，所以Boston的領隊，黃賢理兄提議除了上述四支部外，應加上所謂新英格蘭州 (New England) 等分部 (附圖 2)。可見這個球區規模之龐大，這個球區一年一度在夏令營時，舉辦台灣鄉親壘球賽，可惜未及時體制化，遂逐漸走下坡，規模一再縮小，終於在台灣鄉親壘球圈裡消失了，殊為可惜！

呂俊廷寫於加拿大, 03/2008

6. 中西部台灣人壘球比賽：

1964年陳坤木教授轉任於密西根州立大學 (Michigan State University, East Lansing)。該大學有四萬五千名學生，其中來自台灣的就有三四百名，陳教授一如往昔的招待台灣學生，並鼓勵他們打球，終於有了Spartans球隊的產生，並帶領Spartans和Ann Arbor較勁，成為台灣壘球最早的2支勁旅，名噪一時！當這2隊成員畢業後，把他們的經驗帶到美國各地的台灣同鄉會，於是壘球旋風吹遍各地，如雨後春筍。北美各地相繼的有台灣壘球隊的組成。1964年芝加哥台灣同鄉會，召開中西部夏令營及壘球賽，當時就有近千同鄉參與，約有十隊從各地趕來參加。1971年加拿大多倫多台灣同鄉會壘球隊，亦加入了行列，開始加入美國的台灣壘球賽，其後經常接受邀請參賽，成為北美台灣壘球賽的成員。

無獨有偶，1965年在汽車城Detroit之一角，有由陳友珍醫師、陳瑞騰及Paul蔡 (2001年巴西第28屆世台會，遊覽車意外事故中身亡，痛失台灣之精英，在此我們共痛輓之!) 等志同道合的同鄉組成了Demons壘球隊，名聞遐邇。1970年更進一步擴展，終至與Ann Arbor, East Lansing成為美中西部的三強，形成三足鼎立之局勢。歷屆之北美洲中西部台灣壘球賽，泰半由East Lansing Spartans與Detroit Demons兩隊輪流稱霸，尤以Spartan擁有數名最優秀打擊手，曾創出福杯史上，唯一四連勝 (1990-1993年) 的空前記錄！

呂俊廷寫於加拿大, 03/2008

7. 匹茲堡球隊

黃東昇於1969年到1978年在匹茲堡 (Pittsburgh) 的海灣石油公司 (Gulf Oil Company) 服務。當時在匹茲堡上班的幾位台灣同鄉 (羅福全、柯焯輝、柯耀宗、黃東昇) 於1970年首次組織匹茲堡台灣同鄉會。同時柯焯輝已在匹茲堡大學區 (Pittsburgh University and Carnegie Mellon University) 當壘球教練，與台灣學生每週末練球。匹茲堡位於美東區、美東北區、美中西區之間，壘球隊並不特別屬於任何一地區，因此該壘球隊到處參加比賽。

柯焯輝當時在匹茲堡志願做壘球教練。1969已有學生組隊打球，在CarnegieMellon大學練球，1970年正式組成球隊。當時打球是匹茲堡台灣同鄉會主要活動，該隊曾參加過幾次大賽，1973在Purdue大學，1973在Buffalo，1974在Syracuse，1975在Toronto，1976在DC華府。當時匹茲堡球隊還是很陽春，沒有制服，後來到Purdue打球時大家才買一頂黃色帽子及黃色T恤。1973年Purdue之比賽，難忘的是星期六我們第一場碰到強手Ann Arbor隊，一連輸球。後來我們慢慢趕上，到第七局以二分打贏對手，沒有人相信我們會打贏戰。第一天的成果我們打進四強，第二天(星期日)四強的決賽，因為我們必須開車回家上班及上課，只好決定放棄參與決賽。Detroit老仙隊一直想與Pitts隊較量，因此我們於星期日清早與老仙隊打友誼賽。沒想到我們竟以兩分打贏老仙隊，這真是跌破大家眼鏡。

吳明基說那次由Purdue大學主辦1973年台灣人夏令會舉辦的壘球賽，當時的球賽，匹隊雖然打進四強但並沒有參加決賽。原因是大部分的隊員都必須於隔天(星期一)回匹茲堡上班，因而不能參加星期日整天的決賽。為參加此場比賽，隊員都穿黃色T恤及黃色帽子以模仿Pittsburgh Pirate的職業棒球隊。當時我是匹茲堡台灣同鄉會的會長，蔡正隆是我們的球隊隊長。我本人球打得不好，只當候補隊員，但對匹隊表現感到非常驕傲。1973年有另一場比賽是由紐約之Buffalo主辦，匹隊上北遠征，亦拿到冠軍。

8. 底特律老仙隊 Detroit Demon

底特律老仙隊，隊員個個球亦高強而且全隊的服裝從頭上的帽子到腳上的鞋子都是標準的壘球服裝，全隊站一排所展示的威風凜凜就足夠讓對手畏懼三分，老仙隊在中西部所向無敵。甘義任說在底特律隊打了四年球，在底特律、安那堡、普度、多倫多出賽，隊友中有多位醫生，陳友珍醫師為大家做制服。我們到 Kmart 買手套，只買得起 5 元的，是小孩用的，雖然裝備簡陋卻常贏球。我的擊球習慣，善於攻左邊之外野，很少有人能接到我的球。有一次跟 Ann Arbor 隊比賽，我打了很遠的球，相信我可跑到 Home Base。沒想到竟有人接到我的球，當時我非常生氣。但非常意外，沒想到在這次團聚會場裡，陳坤木教授就回應說那位接到球的人就是他。人生很奧妙，我這四十年一直被此事困擾，沒想到今天竟然碰見到我這位對手。

9. 東北區(紐約上州)台灣同鄉會壘球賽：

大部份來美國的留學生，在台灣不一定都打過硬式棒球，能成為學校棒球校隊隊員的更少，但是打壘球則比較容易普遍。棒球是美國的 National Sport，在同鄉會或同學會的野外聚餐，壘球也漸漸成為不可缺少的活動項目，大人小孩都會上場一試。從1970年代開始，一些同鄉會和同學會紛紛正式組隊，並相邀舉行友誼賽。

「東北區台灣同鄉壘球賽」創辦於1972年，參加的球隊主要是來自紐約上州幾個的地區：奧本尼，水牛城，綺色佳，京斯敦，羅徹斯特，雪城，和多倫多(加拿大)。幾年後與「美東台灣同鄉壘球賽」合併，加參比賽的地區擴大到波士頓，哈特福特(康州)，紐約市，南北新澤西，和渥太華(加拿大)。1982-1987年全勝時期，一共有十二隊報名參加。此項壘球賽最後一場比賽是1992年。連續兩天的比賽，都是選擇七月的一個週末，地點由幾個不同地區的同鄉會輪流做東。1980年後，因為奧本尼地點適中，紐約州立大學校園又有足夠的球場，球賽大部分都由奧本尼同鄉會主辦接待，善盡地主之宜。奧本尼同鄉會元老陳仲欽，波士頓的黃賢理，羅徹斯特的許根旺，多倫多的辦接待。奧本尼同鄉會元老陳仲欽，波士頓的黃賢理，羅徹斯特的許根旺，多倫多的黃大屯等人都是美東壘球賽的熱心推手。遠道而來的多倫多同鄉會，由總領隊黃大屯每年率領老，中，青少三隊，開車八，九小時趕來參加比賽，精神可嘉。

比賽依報名隊數，抽籤分成三或四組，採用旋環雙淘汰賽，第一天中午起舉行初賽，隔日整天舉行複賽和決賽。為期兩天的比賽，在各自拉拉隊的嘶喊鼓舞下，各隊大展身手，拚輸贏。但首日比賽結束後，大家聚集一齊晚餐，舉行聯誼晚會，由各隊提供表演餘興節目，有唱有跳，大家輕鬆歡笑，會場充滿海外鄉親，新朋舊識相逢喜樂的氣氛。

1984年經領隊會議通過決議，將總冠軍杯定名為「彭明敏杯」，以表揚彭明敏博士對推動台灣民主獨立運動的貢獻，並取得彭先生的同意。翌年又加添「陳文成杯」，獎賞給青少年組的優勝隊。

1986年七月彭明敏博士由華府前來奧本尼看球賽，親自頒獎。

陳仲欽寫於NY, 02/2016

10. 台美人文成盃網球賽

文成杯網球賽已在灣區舉辦多年，在北加州台美人社區中是具有重大意義的民主人權紀念的活動之一。陳文成博士的犧牲日漸被人淡忘，因此北加州台灣同鄉聯合會於每年九月初秋，舉辦文成杯網

球賽，一則以球會友，鍛鍊身體，二則藉此紀念。

首屆於1984年八月四日在弗雷蒙特中央公園舉行。由北加州台灣同鄉聯合會主辦。

11. 紐約上州台灣同鄉高爾夫球俱樂部李登輝杯

1960—1970年代早期來美的台灣留學生，二十年後大多已成家立業，工作穩定，經濟上也有較好的基礎，打高爾夫球成為許多中年人愛好的週末休閒健康運動。

「紐約上州台灣同鄉高爾夫球俱樂部」(Upstate New York Taiwanese Golf Club)於1992年成立，發起人及提供贊助的是台商僑領李俊廷先生(1935—2009)。李先生台中市人，東海大學商學系畢業，1979年移民美國，在紐約上州雪城創立「李連貿易公司」，是一位成功的企業家，很熱心服務鄉親和社區，曾任雪城台灣同鄉會會長，和紐約上州台商會會長，與當地政商各界關係良好。

繳費成為俱樂部永久會員的，先後一共有七十多人，來自紐約上州Albany, Ithaca, Rochester, Syracuse, Rome-Utica等地區。每年固定從五月至九月的第三個禮拜六輪流在不同地區比賽，總共五場。每次比賽依每一位參賽人的程度，分成男三組女一組，以十八洞淨桿數決定各組的優勝獲獎名次，比賽擊球最遠 (Longest Drive)及上果領最接近旗杆 (Close to the Pin)的人當然也有獎。全年選四場比賽總淨桿數最少的球員獲得當年總冠軍。

2001年透過在康乃爾大學任教的陳河田教授，也是當年李登輝在康乃爾修博士時的好友及球伴的聯繫，李登輝總統贈送給俱樂部一座高20英寸的精緻獎杯（見下圖），這項高爾夫球賽逐正式定名為「李總統杯」，獎杯由每年比賽的總冠軍球員保管一年，到2015年已經有十六位不同球員的姓名刻在獎杯的座台上。2010年開始，俱樂部又增加一項「李俊廷杯」，以紀念發起人李俊廷先生的貢獻。

紐約上州幅員廣大，台美鄉親分散各地。高爾夫球俱樂部不但提倡一項有益健康的休閒活動，也提供給大家定期相聚的機會，多了一個能增進彼此聯繫與關懷，互通信息的橋樑。



陳仲欽寫於NY, 02/2016

12. 奧斯汀壘球隊 (第二代)

English Version

Baseball is the most popular sport for Taiwanese in Taiwan. This can be traced back to the period when Taiwan was ruled by Japan and baseball was introduced and promoted.

Starting from elementary schools, baseball game is one of the big events for the school. Each school has a team, representing the school playing against the teams from various schools within the same city. The winner will play in regional tournament and the winner can play in world series of Little league in Williamsport, PA. Team Taiwan won world championship many times and made the name of Taiwan shining on the world stage. The students, not playing in the team, have to be the cheerleaders to supporting their team. During the World Series of Little League Baseball World Series, they watch the game excitingly in the mid-night. Those are their very memorable event in their young lives.

Starting from 1960, college graduates from Taiwan came to American for graduate studies. Most of them, majoring in engineering and science. They will stabilize their lives in this new land after one or two semesters.

Because they had scholarship or assistantship from the school, they do not need to work outside the campus in the summer time for their future financial needs. They stay in the campus for the summer vacation. They quickly learned that softball game is one of popular summer game by American. It is only minor different from baseball. Therefore, it is very easy for them to play the game. They play in the ball field in a nice park under hot summer weather with friends from Taiwan and American friends. They immediately fell in love in playing it. It becomes their good pastime : going to park and playing softball game for fun in their summer vacation.

There are many good things playing softball games :

1. To know new people from Taiwan in the same college or in the same local area.
2. To discuss the subject of common interest , especially the political news in Taiwan.
3. For those people with wife and young children, it is a good social times for young ladies and children too.
4. It is a good occasion for young men and women, who are not marry yet to meet and start friendship smoothly.
5. Softball is a safer game than baseball, even if female player can play together with male player in the same game. That adds fun to everyone.
6. It is not expensive for playing in the game. What you need is a glove, some balls and bats. There is no fee for playing in the game.

From Early 1960, Formosan Clubs were established in many college campus and big cities in America. Softball game is one of their major activities because it is a good ways for recruiting new members for the club, especially from local Taiwanese Students. Most of students playing in softball team involved further with other activities of the Club and late became the leader of the Club.

There are other Formosa clubs near-by, a number of regional tournaments were established. Therefore, It became a big event for a softball team traveling to play in the tournaments. It is a trip by car with team mates, know each other more. Also you will meet new friends in near-by areas. It is also a treat for young family , an out of town trip for wife and young children. There are many softball tournaments, sponsoring by Taiwanese American organizations, locally and regionally. The sponsoring organizations are diversifying too, such as by Summer Conference organizations, church groups, etc. Also there had different categories to accommodate different ages of player. Following are the brief summary of various tournaments :

1. Taiwan Independence Cup Softball Tournament 1969~2012

2. Softball Game and Tournament in New Jersey :

A softball team was formed in 1973 by Formosa Club/ New Jersey. The players are young professionals and graduate students in Rutgers University from Taiwan. They played in a ball field in Rutgers Stadium on weekend once a week. If there is a tournament coming up, they practiced more often or when they can. They would like to travel to nearby states to have a game with other teams.

There are teams formed by Taiwanese Presbyterian Church. They played after Sunday service and traveled to Queens, NY to play in a regional tournament for Taiwanese churches in tri-state areas annually. It is a big tournament.

N.J. Softball Invitational tournament : It started from 1993 and is still going in 2015, primarily for T. A. second generation players. But, American friends are welcome too. The teams come from New Jersey and New York. Some young men returned to join their team from west coast or Texas, just to play for their old teams. Professional empire were used, a big trophy is being used to be held by the Championship team after each year. MVP plaque and small trophies were award to the championship and run off teams. It is a exciting time for our second generation. At this moment, the tournament is open to Taiwanese American team as well as outsider teams.

3. Softball Tournament in Queen, NY , Sponsored by Fellowship of Taiwan Christian Churches in New York :

The teams were from each Taiwanese churches in Tristate area (NY, NJ and CT). There are different categories , such as youth and adult groups. It is a one day event and lots of Taiwanese Came to the tournament for playing and cheering their team.

4. Formosa Cup Softball Tournament by Taiwanese Canadian Association of Toronto

5. Formosan Softball League in Eastern America

6.

7.

8. Detroit Demon

9. U.S. East Coast Taiwanese Softball Tournament—The Peng Ming-Men Cup

Baseball is America’s “National Sport”. Starting in the 1970s, softball game, which is much easier to play, become a popular recreational activity of summer outdoor parties of Taiwanese American communities and Taiwanese Student Associations

“The Northeast Region Taiwanese Softball Tournament” was formed in 1972. The participating communities included Albany, Buffalo, Ithaca, Kinston, Rochester, Syracuse. and Toronto. A few years later, it was expanded to become the “East Coast Taiwanese Softball Tournament”. Participants added the teams from Boston, Hartford, New York City, North New Jersey, South New Jersey, and Ottawa. Toronto usually sent three teams. Up to 12 teams participated during the 1980-1987 hey-day of the Tournament ended in 1991.

The two-day annual tournaments were played on the July weekends and hosted by different communities among the participants. Later, The TAA of New York Capital District was selected to host the tournament for many years because of it's central location and availability of multiple softball fields in the Albany campus of the State University of New York. Several local Taiwanese community leaders, including Mr. Chungchin Chen (陳仲欽) of Albany, Mr. Henry Huang (黃賢理) of Boston, Dr. Kenneth Hsu (許根旺) of Rochester, and Mr. Ta-Tung Huang (黃大屯) of Toronto, and a few others were all contributors to the tournament success.

Competition was quite intense and fanned by each team’s cheerleaders on the field sides. But all would become friends during the after-game dinners. Entertainment at the evening parties was provided by each team.

In 1984, the tournament was named “The Peng Ming-Men Cup” to honor of Dr. Peng’s contributions to the Taiwan’s independent movement. A “Chen Wen-Chen Cup” was created the following year for the youth division winner of the tournament. Dr. Peng came to Albany in July 1986 to watch the games and personally presented the champion cup to the top winner.

Written by Chungchin Chen, N.Y., 02/2016

10.

11. Upstate New York Taiwanese Golf Club — The President Lee Cup

The earlier Taiwanese graduate students of the 1960-1970 era had successfully settled in America's society 20 years later with secure jobs and established families. They selected golf as one of the favorable recreational sports to spend their leisure and time and disposable income for the weekends.

"The Upstate New York Taiwanese Golf Club" was organized by Mr. Charles Li (李俊廷 1935-2009) in 1992. Mr. Li, an enthusiastic amateur golfer, was born in Taichun and graduated from Tonghai University with B.A. degree in Business. The family emigrated to the U.S. in 1979 and established "Li-Land Trade & Radiator Service, Inc." in Syracuse. A successful business man and community leader, he served as the President of local Taiwanese American Association and the Upstate New York Taiwanese Chamber of Commerce.

There were about 70 dues-paid permanent members of the Club. Members came from several Upstate New York communities, including Albany, Ithaca, Rochester, Rome-Utica, and Syracuse. A total of five games were played each year from May to September and rotated among different areas. Participating players were divided into 4 groups, 3 for men and 1 for women, according to each individual's level of handicap. Winning was decided based on the net scores of 18 holes. The player who had the lowest total net score of the best 4 out of 5 games in the year earned the Grand Champion title.

In 2001, through the effort of Professor Joseph Chen (陳河田) of Cornell University, President Dr. Teng-Fui Lee (李登輝) donated a 2-foot tall elegant trophy to the Club for the tournament. The two were good friends and playing-partners when Lee pursued his Ph. D. at Cornell. Thus the tournament was formally named "The President Lee Cup". There have been 15 players' names engraved on the trophy since 2001. Started in 2010, "The Charli Li Cup" was also created in memory of the Club founder for his contributions. Taiwanese American residents are vastly scattered throughout Upstate New York. The annual golf tournaments not only promoted healthful recreation, they also provided a venue for friends to meet, to communicate, and to share their concerns over issues in Taiwan.

Written by Chungchin Chen, N.Y., 02/2016

12. Softball Team(second generation) – Austin, Texas 1991-1993

In the 1970's to 1980's, there was a team of UT-Austin Taiwanese graduate students who played softball every weekend. They participated in an annual Texas state wide Taiwanese softball tournament in Houston but the Austin team always came in last place. When Peter Wu(吳宗憲) served as the president of the Austin Taiwanese Association from 1991-1993, he reformed the softball team but this time composed of the next generation only, including his high school son Ryan Wu(吳南輝). This was a much more organized team as they even had uniforms. They practiced every weekend and also participated in the same statewide softball tournament in Houston. They were more successful on the field than Peter's 1970's team as they were now second to last place.

Written by Pearl Wu 01/2016

Photos:



Championship team of NJ Taiwanese American Invitational Softball Tournament 1996



Taiwan Independence Cup Softball Tournament Group picture of 2006 (38th tournament)



左上方坐在椅子上者，一為李遠哲教授的夫人(及女兒)，另一為洪國治太太簡慧齡(戴圍巾)左方兩位男士，一為李遠哲教授(靠近其夫人、沒戴帽)，另一位是梁德明醫師戴帽、兩手著地)站立者應為彭旭明



奧斯汀壘球隊 (第二代) Softball Team(second generation)--Austin, Texas 1991-1993



美東台灣同鄉壘球賽 US East Coast Taiwanese Softball Tournament, 7/1986



紐約上州台灣同鄉高爾夫球俱樂部 Upstate New York Taiwanese Golf Club

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