



Asahi Baseball Association

The Asahi Baseball Association (formerly the Canadian Nikkei Youth Baseball Club) is dedicated to creating healthy communities through the game of baseball.

Inspired by the legacy of the Vancouver Asahi Baseball team, for their skill, perseverance and accomplishments, it is our collective dream to bring back the Asahi Baseball Team to the Nikkei (Japanese-Canadian) Community and Canada.

We believe in fair play, hard work and teamwork. We are a new organization and are open to all, without regard to gender, ethnic origin or residency.

OBJECTIVES

- Operate a supervised program of baseball spreading the Japanese way of baseball and the Asahi spirit.
- Form and develop youth and adult teams to play in leagues, tournaments and exhibition games, locally or internationally.
- Instill in players the ideals of respect, good sportsmanship and best effort, with a goal to becoming well adjusted, stronger and happier

players and grow to be productive citizens with integrity.

- Give Japanese Canadians families opportunities to connect with each other and be involved in the Japanese Canadian community.
- Provide a forum for the community to come together to celebrate the sport of baseball and preserve the Vancouver Asahi Legacy.

PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

A. Annual Asahi Legacy Games

Each year we honour the Vancouver Asahi by hosting the Asahi Legacy Games. In 2015, we had five Asahi teams from ages 8 up to adult. Four different games were played including the Championship Game between the Midget Shin Asahi team (ages 14-16) and the Men's Asahi team. Fundraising budget: \$3,000 to cover event related expenses.

B. Training Sessions and Tournaments

Since October 2014, our volunteer coaches have provided baseball training to our youth members.

We teach the Japanese way of baseball and instill in players the Asahi spirit. Instruction is in both English and Japanese and is open to all youth, regardless of gender, ethnic origin or residency. A small fee is charged to help cover some costs.

After intense training, two Shin Asahi youth teams travelled to Kamloops to play tournaments. Kaye Kaminishi, the last surviving original Asahi player, encourage the teams from the dug. The teams placed first and second in their division.

Fundraising budget: \$4,000 for equipment costs, tournament fees, facility rentals and insurance.

C. Bi-Annual Japan Tour

Every two years, the Club plans to take a team of players aged 14 to 16 to Japan. They will travel to Yokohama (Vancouver’s sister city), Obu and Tenri. The Shin Asahi players will practice alongside Japanese players to experience Japanese practice style as well as play games. Players will interact with their Japanese counterparts, share stories and experiences. The tour will deepen the relations between Japan and Canada.

Bi-Annual Fundraising budget: \$27,000 to help defer costs of sending the team overseas.

Japan Tour 2017

March 8	Leave Vancouver for Osaka
March 10 - 15	Tenri, Nara. Team practice and games with local teams
March 15 – 21	Obu City, Aichi. Team practice with Obu High School and games with other local teams
March 21 – 26	Yokohama. Games with local Junior High School or club teams. Visit with the Mayor of Yokohama
March 27	Return to Vancouver from Tokyo



Non-baseball
Activities

- Visit cultural sites and the Overseas Japanese Museum
- Meet local dignitaries
- Meet local media

FUNDRAISING

The club and its members raise funds through various events throughout the year. We sell merchandise such as t-shirts and hats and has partnered with local businesses including Glico Canada Corp., Angel Seafoods and Canfisco to sell food products.

We secured corporate sponsors such as DeNA Studios Canada Ltd., Abbies Sports Shop, Total Marketing and Kanagawa Shinbun. For the 2015 tour, ANA as our exclusive airline sponsor provided a cash donation along with preferential pricing. We also sell advertising in our Players and Legacy Games programs. Our sponsorship program and advertising packages are available on request. We can also provide charitable tax receipts to individuals through National Sports Trust Fund.



2015 Japan Tour Team

FOUNDING MEMBERS / DIRECTORS

- Emiko Ando • Scott Ando • Janet Chee • Josh Coward • Tomio Fukumura • Akiko Inomata
- Atsunori Inomata • Russ Kada • Manabu Ogawa • Sammy Takahashi • John Wong • Sara Yoshida