

June 16, 2015

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*For Immediate Release:*  
**COOPERSTOWN WOMEN'S BASEBALL CLASSIC**  
**USA Baseball vs. Japan's Madonna Stars**  
**in Cooperstown, New York**

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**The USA Baseball Women's National Baseball Team preparing for international play.**  
*Photograph provided by USA Baseball*

## **OVERVIEW**

The Cooperstown Women's Baseball Classic was created to showcase the world's best female baseball players on a national stage.

### **When:**

The inaugural 4-game series is scheduled July 10 to 12, 2015, and will feature the USA Baseball Women's National Team, which is ranked No. 2 in the world, against the Madonna Stars, a team of players from Japan's Women's National Team, professional players from Japan Women's Baseball League, and university and club team players.

- Friday, July 10: USA vs. Japan @ SUNY Cobleskill, 1PM (Game 1)
- Saturday, July 11: USA vs. Japan @ Doubleday Field, 2PM (Game 2)
- Saturday, July 11: USA vs. Japan @ Doubleday Field, 5PM (Game 3)
- Sunday, July 12: USA vs. Japan @ Doubleday Field, 2PM (Game 4)

### **Where:**

The initial game will be hosted by SUNY Cobleskill, where athletes will be housed during their stay. The Classic's final three games will be hosted at Doubleday Field in Cooperstown, New York, home of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

During their visit to Cooperstown, both the US and Japan teams will have a special experience and visit to the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. For more information, visit <http://cooperstownclassicbaseball.com>.



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## EVENT GOALS

The Cooperstown Women's Baseball Classic was created to enable the world's best female baseball players to be showcased in Cooperstown with the following goals:

- Grow the sport of baseball amongst female athletes.
- Increase fan engagement in Cooperstown.
- Increase interaction with the world's elite Women's National Baseball Teams.
- Generate awareness and support for USA Baseball, a 501(c)3 non-profit.

## QUOTES

Jeff Katz, Cooperstown Mayor:

*"Baseball, our National Pastime, is for all of us, and it makes perfect sense for Doubleday Field, the mythical 'birthplace of baseball,' to be the home field for a series of games involving USA Baseball. The July games, the Cooperstown Women's Baseball Classic, between the top two women's baseball teams in the USA and Japan are bound to be exciting. We are thrilled that Cooperstown will showcase the best in women's baseball and hope everyone comes out to see these players, right where they belong, on the field where legends played."*

Ashley Bratcher, USA Baseball Women's National Team Director:

*"The Women's National Team is thrilled at the opportunity to play Japan in a four-game series at the Hall of Fame. This is a first for both countries and we are excited to bring international women's baseball to such a stage. Between the Cooperstown Women's Baseball Classic and women's baseball making its Pan American Games debut, we feel fortunate to be a part of such an impactful year for women's baseball."*

## FREE YOUTH CLINICS

Free of charge, youth athletes of all ages, girls and boys, are invited to join America's best female athletes for inspiration, and batting and fielding drills - plus photos with the players and free autographs.

- Saturday, July 11: Hosted by USA Baseball @ SUNY Cobleskill, 9:00AM
- Sunday, July 12: Hosted by USA Baseball & Japan's Madonna Stars @ Doubleday Field in Cooperstown, 10:00AM



## ABOUT USA BASEBALL

USA Baseball is the national governing body for the sport of baseball in the United States and is a member of the United States Olympic Committee and the World Baseball Softball Confederation. The organization selects and trains the World Baseball Classic, World Cup and Pan Am teams (and all other USA Baseball Professional Teams); the USA Baseball Collegiate National Team; the USA Baseball 18U, 15U and 12U National Teams; and the USA Baseball Women's National Team, all of which participate in various international competitions each year. USA Baseball also presents the Golden Spikes Award annually to the top amateur baseball player in the country. For more information, please visit [USABaseball.com](http://USABaseball.com).

The USA Baseball Women's National Team was established in 2004, and won gold medal the IBAF Women's Baseball World Cup in 2004 and 2006. Recently In 2012, the Women's National Team won silver medal at the WBWC in Edmonton, and then silvered again in 2014 in Japan. In March 2015, USA won the gold in the Pan American Games Qualifier in the Dominican Republic, beating Venezuela, 3-0, in the finals, and sweeping all five tournament games.

USA is currently ranked No. 2 in the WBSC Women's Baseball World Rankings. When not competing in the World Cup, the team hosts a developmental program with youth clinics, and works to grow the game of baseball among women in the U.S.

Learn more about USA Baseball: <http://usabaseball.com>

## ABOUT CHARITY HOP SPORTS MARKETING

Charity Hop recognizes there is a glaring need for fundraising assistance to sports related organizations and charities. The full service consulting business began in 2007. With a vast array of clients and causes, Charity Hop founders have made an impact on the national philanthropic community, raising millions of dollars for dozens of causes.

Learn more about projects led by Charity Hop: <http://charityhop.com>.

## CONTACTS

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