

ALL-STAR ENGLISH

A Project Beisbol Newsletter

IN THIS ISSUE

ALL-STAR ENGLISH LEAGUE EXPANDS ACROSS COLOMBIA

Page 2

LEAGUE CONTRACTS INTERNATIONAL COACHES

Page 3

LEADING & MOST IMPROVED PLAYERS

Page 4

LEAGUE ENTERS DIGITAL EXCHANGE PARTNERSHIP IN USA

Page 6



Inaugural Season Comes Down to a Nail-Biting Finish

How time flies! After an amazing performance by all teams, the first season of the *All-Star English League* has come to an end with **Baseball & Softball Dreams** coming from behind to beat the Giants in the last week of the playoffs. The Commissioner's Office is extremely impressed with the performance of all the student athletes so far and is eagerly looking forward to the next season. Each team performed above expectations, but there are a couple standouts that are worth mentioning. With a .890 ASE Average and 37-3 record, Baseball and Softball Dreams knocked it out of the park and are the highest scoring team this season. Nicely done! Coming in a close second are the **Giants** with a 36-4 record and .880 ASE Average. Let's see if Baseball and Softball Dreams can maintain their lead next season as the league expands dramatically across Colombia.



Tatiana Cordoba



Yolima Ferreira



Angelica Peñaña



Wilder Rocha



Coach Jenny Acosta

League Expands Across Colombia

Thanks to a grant from the *U.S. Embassy in Colombia*, the All-Star English League has expanded by 80 players. Our new program offers teenage boys and girls across the country opportunities to learn English in a fun and dynamic way, while promoting cultural exchange and unity in our hemisphere. Impressive new Colombian and Venezuelan prospects in the departments of Chocó, Atlántico and Norte de Santander will bring fresh perspectives and energy to the league. Additionally, we are proud to announce that talented female student athletes represent over 45% of the expanded league, demonstrating the importance and potential of women in sports in Latin America.

The league has further been strengthened by Project Béisbol's sponsor *DHL*, through the *DHL Helping Learners Program*. This social program will ensure everyone has educational supplies to successfully compete this season. When expectations to succeed are high, every advantage is necessary. And last but not least, ASE's expansion would not have been possible without the support of our local partners across Colombia:

Antioquia / Sucre: Fundación Campo de Sueños.

Atlántico: Liga de Béisbol del Atlántico, Liga de Softbol del Atlántico, Fundación PDF.

Chocó: Club de Béisbol Sin Fronteras (Quibdó), Asociación de Venezolanos en Chocó (Quibdó), Club 108 (Quibdó y Managru), Club de Beisbol Los Amigos (Quibdó), Club Aslam (Acandí), Programa de Béisbol y Softbol de Unguía.

Córdoba: English for My Neighborhood, Fundación Campo de Sueños.

Norte de Santander: Fundación Venezolanos en Cúcuta, Equipo de Béisbol Magallanes S.F., Club de Béisbol Rhinos, Club de Béisbol Buffalos, Escuela de Formación Deportiva La Familia.



New students in Acandí, Chocó.

International Coaches Contracted

To support the rapid expansion of the All-Star English League, management has carried out an extensive interview process across the hemisphere, from Pittsburgh to Buenos Aires, to find the best coaching talent available. The new ASE coaches are not only highly skilled with excellent winning records, they are dedicated to promoting social change and peace through sports and education.

Batting cleanup and coaching 10 of the 25 teams in the league, **Head Coach Shawn Chattin**. Coach Shawn brings more than 10 years of English coaching experience to ASE. As a lifetime baseball player and fan, Shawn understands the terminology connected with the players' united passion. "When I saw the level of motivation in the All-Star English league, I knew there was no better place to continue my career."



Leading off, **Coach Melisa Echeveste** from Buenos Aires, Argentina. Coach Echeveste is a true professional.



After spending 25 years playing softball at the highest levels internationally, including the Argentinian National Team, she is ready to start training others for similar success. By understanding the players' perspectives, Coach Echeveste will offer a unique value to her players. "English, just like every other skill they learn on the field, is a tool that gets players closer to achieving their dreams. It requires as much commitment and discipline to acquire as any other skill. As educators, we should provide our players with the most complete skill set possible so that they can succeed both on and off the field."

Project Beisbol President and Founder and ASE League Commissioner, **Justin Halladay**, expressed his gratitude and optimism about the program in a recent encounter. "I can't say how pleased we are with the performance of the ASE coaching staff. As an emerging league, there were limited funds to hire talent coaches and launch successfully. These education leaders took a chance with us because they believe in our mission of empowering the youth through sports and education, regardless of class, race, gender, religion or nationality. We are extremely optimistic about the future of the league and plan to be announcing beautiful success stories very soon. Thanks to our veteran coaches Amelia Mohammed, Jenny Acosta, Luisa Diaz and Nicolas Rodriguez, as well as the rookies highlighted in this publication."

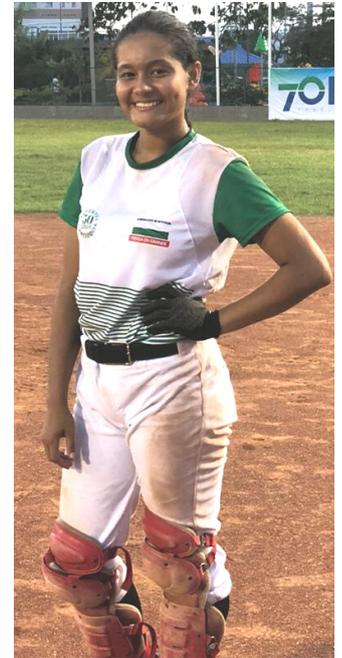
Leading and Most Improved Players

All-Star English is extremely proud of all of the participants, teachers and our partner **Fundación Campo de Sueños** this past season. Everyone showed great enthusiasm and dedication as we launched the program.

There are a few All-Stars we would like to acknowledge for outstanding performances. **Ana Sofia Laguna** was nominated MVP with a 1.000 overall player ranking, while **Maria Valentina Jimenez** and **Darlys Perez** were close runners up with .995 and .933 respectively. Nicely done to all three, keep it up! Darlys sadly has had to retire from the league to focus on coaching with INDER in Medellin. She is a great example to all of the younger female players in the league and will be greatly missed. These players demonstrate that hardwork and commitment really do pay off. All stat leaders and players on the championship team receive a brand new high-quality *Rawlings* baseball or softball glove at the end of each three month season courtesy of Project Beisbol's donors.



Ana Sofia Laguna



Maria Valentina Jimenez

We are also proud to recognize the most improved players during the second and third months of the season. **Leny Hoyos**, **Julian Sinisterra**, and **Angelica Peñaata**. Keep your eyes on these three players who keep getting better and better each season.



Angelica Peñaata



Leny Hoyos



Julian Sinisterra

Player Stats: Season #1

SEASON #1: STAT LEADERS	
PLAYERS	ASE AVERAGE
Ana Sofia Laguna	1.000
Maria V. Jimenez	.995
Darlys Perez	.933
Angelica Peñata	.932
Maria José Martínez	.927
Edna Martínez	.907
Yolima Ferreira	.904
Tatiana Córdoba	.901
Elver Vivanco	.900



Ana



Ma. Valentina



Darlys



Angelica



Maria José



Edna



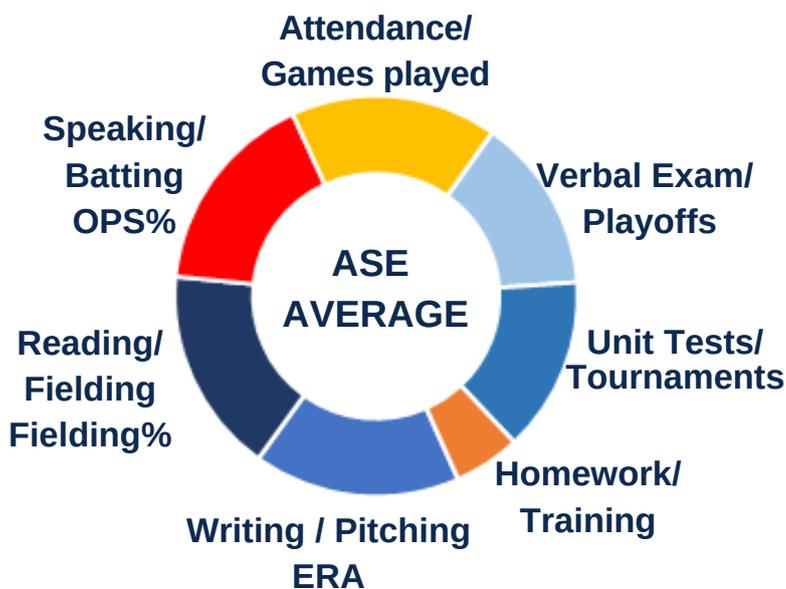
Yolima



Tatiana



Elver



Standings: Season #1

SEASON #1: STANDINGS			
TEAMS	PTS.	WINS	LOSES
Baseball & Softball Dreams	.890	37	3
Giants	.888	36	4
Funny Girls	.885	35	5
Great Dreams	.860	34	6
Spicy Girls	.748	30	10

League Forms U.S. Training Partnership



Malvern Prep and student athletes from around the U.S. and Colombia

In addition to All-Star English, this year we've launched another exciting program, the **Digital Exchange**. Also sponsored by the U.S. Embassy in Colombia, the Digital Exchange is an interactive and exciting way for U.S. and Canadian softball and baseball players to connect with their Colombian and Venezuelan counterparts. Through weekly virtual conversations, participants will improve their English and Spanish skills while sharing their passion for sport, culture and learning.

To participate in this valuable international program, applicants need to have a minimum of B1- (low-Intermediate) level of English or Spanish as their second language. Conversation topics will be about baseball and softball, personal interests and social topics including language and culture, race, gender, equality, migration and conflict resolution. The participants communicate half the time in English and half the time in Spanish. Exchange sessions occur once per week with extended, group workshops scheduled for every month. Project Beisbol is proud to announce our first institutional partner in the U.S., **Malvern Preparatory School**. A partner of Project Béisbol since the 2018-2019 **U.S. Department of State** sponsored

Sport for Social Change Exchange, Malvern Prep was a perfect match to help launch the program. Director of Global Programming and Spanish teacher, **Teresa Lohse** is leading the effort on Malvern's side. She is enthusiastic about the exchange, commenting, "As a teacher it is very encouraging to see the students interacting in their second languages. They seem to enjoy the process of becoming more proficient linguistically as they discuss weekly themes and learn more about one another at the same time." According to Student Body Class President and one of the pioneering participants, **Fran Oschell**, "The Digital Exchange has been a once in a lifetime experience and has been a highlight of this year for me. It has provided me the opportunity to build and develop friendships while also providing a unique opportunity to practice speaking Spanish."

On the Colombian side, **Yolima Ferreira** from Cartagena commented, "It's been a very fun experience and a great opportunity to improve my English. I'm thrilled about opportunity to learn about other cultures and at the same time build a strong international friendships."

JOIN THE DIGITAL EXCHANGE TODAY!

Write us at info@projectbeisbol.org.