



Phone: 815.482.1565  
Fax: 815.477.5005

Email: Jack@MCYASports.org  
Gregg@MCYASports.org

## Press Release February 28, 2008

The McHenry County Youth Sports Association (MCYSA) the not-for-profit organization that has hosted the summer 15-Year Old Baseball Championships in Crystal Lake and surrounding communities for the past fourteen consecutive years received confirmation that **Team Japan** will once again be coming to participate in the annual event.

This past November MCYSA announced that they had entered into a new partnership with the United States Sports Specialty Association (USSSA) to host the inaugural MCYSA/USSSA 15U Open Summer National Championship. In addition to the premiere 15U event, MCYSA/USSSA will also be hosting the 11U and 9U Open Summer National Championships and the 13U and 10U National Invitational Championships. All five age group events will take place between July 26 and August 3, 2008.

In an e-mail dated February 27, 2008 representatives from **Team Japan** stated that at least one 15U team would be attending the event in Crystal Lake. The Japan Amateur Baseball Association (JABA) is making tentative plans to send their second 15U team to Australia during that same time frame. **Team Japan** representatives did state that if the second team did not go to Australia that they would be attending the MCYSA/USSSA event in Crystal Lake.

“This is outstanding news,” stated MCYSA president, Jack Sebesta. “Over the years a wonderful rapport has been built between **Team Japan**, MCYSA, our Host Teams and the residents of the City of Crystal Lake and other communities that have home stayed the Japanese players when they have traveled 1000’s of miles to play baseball in our community. It is great to see that our guests from Japan feel the same way and value the friendships and relationships that have been nurtured all these years.”

In addition to **Team Japan** the international field on the 15U level includes three teams from **Puerto Rico**, two or three from **Canada** and for the first time ever a team from the **Dominican Republic**. In 2007 the only foreign team in the 15U was from Japan. Currently, the 2008 tournament has twenty-four states committed to be represented which would double the number from 2007. **Puerto Rico**, the **Dominican Republic** and **Canada** will also be represented on the younger age levels as well.

For information please go to [www.MCYASports.org](http://www.MCYASports.org).

McHenry County Youth Sports Association – Crystal Lake Championships  
P.O. Box 355 Crystal Lake, Illinois 60039-0355  
[www.MCYASports.org](http://www.MCYASports.org)