



Baseball/Softball

Fukushima Azuma and
Yokohama baseball stadiums



Baseball is played by men and softball, originally indoor version of baseball, by women

BAT (78.7-86.4cm long)

Baseball: **Maple wood**

Softball: **Aluminium or carbon fibre**

OBJECTIVE (baseball and softball)

Two teams (of nine players) take turns batting and fielding. **Pitcher** throws ball to **batter** who tries to hit it and run to **first base** or further. **Run** is scored when player runs around all bases and back to **home plate**. Opposing **fielders** try to catch ball and take batter out

Lee Seung-Yuop
(KOR), batting for gold in Beijing



Home run

Foul line

Third base

Team dugout

Batter
(Home plate)

PITCHING STYLES
Baseball



Up to 170km/h

Overarm, raised mound

18.4m



Softball



Up to 110km/h

Underarm, flat surface

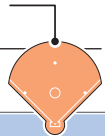
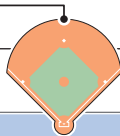
12.2m



DIAMOND COMPARISON

Baseball

Softball



PREVIOUS OLYMPIC MEDALLISTS (Beijing 2008)

BASEBALL

Gold	South Korea
Silver	Cuba
Bronze	United States

SOFTBALL

Gold	Japan
Silver	United States
Bronze	Australia

*Baseball previously appeared at Olympics in: 1904, 1912, 1936, 1952, 1956, 1964, 1984, 1988, 1992, 1996, 2000, 2004, 2008. Softball previously in: 1996, 2000, 2004, 2008

Sources: Tokyo 2020, WBSC, MLB, BBC

Picture: Getty Images

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