The Aussie Hearts were formed in 2005 by Head Coach Narelle Gosstray & Team Leader Rob Novotny. Players come from all parts of Australia, with many based near Sydney. The team is designed to give Australian female baseball players a chance to play internationally when they otherwise might not. The aim is to develop promising teenage players by teaming them with respected, hard working adult players who lead the way.

The February, 2008 tour to Hong Kong represents the third international tour for the Aussie Hearts. Previously the Hearts have traveled to the United States where they have played in San Francisco, California and in Orlando, Florida at the Atlanta Braves spring training complex in the Disney Wide World of Sports.

Head Coach Narelle Gosstray and Assistant Coach Kelly Manzie-Novotny have both played for the Australian National Women’s Baseball Team on multiple occasions at both the Women’s World Series and the Women’s World Cup. Both women are certified in the Australian coaching accreditation program.

Team Leader Rob Novotny has been involved with the Chicago White Sox, Milwaukee Brewers, and Texas Rangers as an administrator, coach, and scout. He has also been a coach for the Australian National Women’s Baseball Team, as well as vice president for the American Women’s Baseball Federation.

To find out more, visit www.aussiehearts.net
Team Introduction: Taipei Vanguard, TAIWAN

Taipei Vanguard Women’s Baseball Team was formed on Aug 11, 2001, it was formally started by a group of female baseball enthusiasts who all met on the Naruwan website!

The average age of the players are around 29 years old and are from different sectors of the society. Such as education, finance, insurance, medical, food services, tourism, retail, fire rescue, and university students, etc. There are 27 players and 2 coaches enrolled in 2007. Every weekend, our team practices around 4-8 hours in Shezi, Taipei.

Every year our team competes in the following tournaments: including National Woman’s Baseball Cup tournament hosted by the Chinese Taipei Baseball Association, President Cup National Woman’s Baseball tournament hosted by the Taiwan Association for Woman in Sport, and National Woman’s Baseball tournament hosted by an amateur woman’s baseball team alternately as well as additional unscheduled events.

In the past 6 years, over 60 baseball enthusiasts, 5 coaches as well as many supporters contributed to our team’s success in the world of women’s baseball. The 2008 Phoenix cup tournament will be the first international tournament that the Taipei Vanguard Women’s Baseball Team will participate in. We hope to create beautiful memories with other baseball enthusiasts from all over the world.

Accomplishment:
- 2007 6th National Woman’s Baseball tournament (Taichung) Champion
- 2007 National Woman’s baseball cup tournament (CTBA) The Second Prize
- 2006 5th National Woman’s Baseball tournament (Kaohsiung) Champion
- 2005 President Cup National Woman’s Baseball tournament (TAWS) The Second Prize
- 2005 4th National Woman’s Baseball tournament (Taipei) The Third Prize
- 2004 3rd National Woman’s Baseball tournament (Taichung) Champion
- 2003 2nd National Woman’s Baseball tournament (Kaohsiung) Champion

台北先鋒女子棒球隊在2001.08.11，由一群愛好棒球的女孩在那魯灣網站上相約練球後正式成立！

先鋒球員平均年齡約29歲，成員來自教育業、金融業、保險業、醫療業、餐飲業、旅遊業、服務業、消防局...各行業之上班族，也有就學中之大學生。2007年正式球員計27人，教練2人，每週於假日練球4~8小時，主要練球地點為台北市社子。

六年來，超過60位對棒球有興趣的女生匯集熱情，與5位教練及許多好心人的幫助加持，推動著先鋒持續不斷地在棒球的世界裡綻放光芒！2008鳳凰盃為台北先鋒女子棒球隊首次參與之國際性賽事，期待與各國同好們一同締造美麗的回憶！

比賽紀錄：
- 2007第六屆全國女子棒球邀請賽(台中)冠軍
- 2007全國女子棒球錦標賽(中華棒球協會)亞軍
- 2006第五屆全國女子棒球邀請賽(高雄)冠軍
- 2005總統盃全國棒球錦標賽女子組(台灣女子運動推廣協會)亞軍
- 2005第四屆全國女子棒球邀請賽(台北)季軍
- 2004第三屆全國女子棒球邀請賽(台中)冠軍
- 2003第二屆全國女子棒球邀請賽(高雄)冠軍
Team Introduction: Far East Bloomers, JAPAN

Far East Bloomers is a foreign contingent. Players from various teams join together upon international matches.

This is our 9th overseas expedition. We have played in the USA, Australia and Canada; Hong Kong is the fourth country or area we are going to play in.

It is our honour to have chance to take part in the championship in Hong Kong. We are going to play with our vigor and enthusiasm and strive for the championship.
Keiko Suzuki - Manager
Tomoshi Arimura - Coach
Madoka Ito - Scorer
Yufu Miki - Scorer
Atsuko Kuroda - Interpreter
Tsuneo Yoshizawa - Interpreter

Kazuho Nimi - 25
Tomomi Yamamoto - 2
Junko Hayashida - 9
Shino Kokubo - 16
Saeko Takahashi - 10

Namie Nakagome - 18
Tamaki Sakamoto - 55
Yukika Wachi - 11
Akiko Osada - 0
Yuko Goto - 41

Shoko Yamashita - 26
Yumi Matsushita - 24
Kei Okamoto - 4
Chika Tamura - 52