

Women's Baseball

# Women stepping up to the plate

## 《Oregon Scientific 鳳凰盃》香港國際女子棒球錦標賽 2008 後記

Courtesy by: Simon (simon@englishstreet.com), English Street, Hong Kong Economic Times Photo: Hong Kong Sports Photography Association



Hong Kong welcomed baseball teams from around the globe to take part in the territory's first ever women's international baseball tournament.

It is a cold yet sunny Valentine's Day and there are plenty of young women running around looking eager and determined. Their focus is not on men, chocolates or flowers, but on a coveted baseball prize, the Oregon Scientific Phoenix Cup.

In fact there are girls and women from overseas decked out in brightly coloured baseball uniforms jogging in single file around Lam Tin's Sai Tso Wan Baseball Field. There is a buzz around the field with different teams displaying different attitudes: the Japanese ladies appear deadly serious when bending and stretching while the Australian team is larking around cracking jokes.

To celebrate its 15th anniversary the Hong Kong Baseball Association is staging a series of events, this four-day international women's tournament in mid-February being one of them

Six teams took part: Hong Kong's Allies, Australia's Aussie Hearts, Japan's Far East Bloomers, Korea's Sunrise, North America's WBL North Stars and Taiwan's Taipei Vanquard

"This is the first time our baseball association has organised an international competition so we are very proud of that," said Allies team member Veronica Cheung.

"We have prepared for about half a year for this competition because we want to be the champions."

They may be serious about winning but the tournament was also a good opportunity to promote the sport to youngsters.

"We would like to encourage younger players to take up the sport and start playing it at school," Veronica said.

"We have invited children from local schools to attend our games because we want to inspire them."

For men only?

Baseball is often viewed as a man's game but that does not mean females are incapable of playing it

Women's baseball teams in the US started to appear after the mid-19th century and grew in popularity from 1890 to 1930

But it was the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League that captured the US public's imagination. Lasting from 1943 to 1954 it was the first recorded professional women's baseball league, the most famous team being the Rockford Peaches. This defunct league received worldwide attention when a fictional account of the Peaches team was made into a major Hollywood film, A League of Their Own, in 1992 starring Tom Hanks and Madonna.

Despite its status at the time, it was still run by men with a sexist mindset. To attract more fans, the players were required to wear short skirts and lipstick during play.

Today, baseball associations around the world have women's teams that compete in international tournaments.

"Most of our players competed in the Women's Baseball World Cup in Taiwan two years ago so we have been up against teams of a higher standard, such as Japan," said Allies pitcher Kitty Au.

WBL North Stars player and manager Justine Siegal pointed out that despite the interest among females there is no girl's baseball teams in the States and so they have to play with the boys.

The women's game, though, is a welcome relief from the steroid doping scandal currently hitting the major baseball leagues in the US. There have been a number of players accused of using steroids, including that of baseball star Roger Clemens who recently appeared before a US Congress committee to answer allegations of using performance-enhancing drugs.

Japanese triumph

Each team's expectations were high and all wanted to win the championship title. The six teams were divided into two groups in the round robin stage. Hong Kong won their group - they first beat Korea 8-3 then Australia, 10-4 the next day. However they lost out to North America in the semi-final stage, losing to them by 8-18.

In the final, Japan triumphed over North America with an emphatic 14-1 win

Both teams have experienced players but it was Far East Bloomers pitcher Shino Kokubo who made the difference. She picked up the Best Pitcher and Most Valuable Player awards for her outstanding contribution.

"We are glad to be here and enjoyed it immensely. We practised very hard and looked forward to a good result," she said.

The overseas players gave Hong Kong the thumbs up and would love to come back, as summed up by Justine.

"It's very warm in Hong Kong and we are happy to be here," she said. "This competition is an historic event and I hope there are many more to come."

#### Glossary

1. covet (v.垂涎) 2. buzz (n.嘈雜聲) 3. lark a

3. lark around (ph.v.嬉耍)

4. defunct (adj.沒人注意的) 5. sexist (adj.性別歧視者) 6. round robin (phr.n.循環賽)



Women's Baseball Tournament

# 多謝各方支持女子棒球

《Oregon Scientific 鳳凰盃》香港國際女子棒球錦標賽 2008 後記李錦泉 香港棒球總會會長

《Oregon Scientific 鳳凰盃》香港國際女子棒球錦標賽 2008 得到各參賽隊伍的讚賞,甚感欣慰。

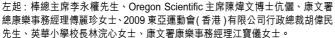
Oregon Scientific 的全力支持,讓賽事得以成功舉辦,這是本會創立以來首次得到商業機構的全力贊助舉辦國際賽事,萬分感謝。

幕後功臣,除了祕書處同事外,當然少不了各位義務工作人員擔任經費籌募、傳宣、接待、場務、裁判、記錄、現場播報、製作專輯網頁、編輯、攝影等工作。各位嘉賓、好友蒞臨開幕禮,增 光不少,還有英華小學鼓隊的精彩表演,令賽事得到高度評價。 本人衷心感謝。

感激各位嘉賓好友蒞臨增光。多謝各方支持女子棒球,希望我們 將來辦得更好。

請繼續給予你們的支持。













# 國際棒球協會祕書長訪港



攝於晒草灣棒球場

In January 2008, Mr. John Ostermyer and Ms. Erika Sramek Saeki, Secretary General and Marketing and TV Rights Manager of IBAF, visited us and SF&OC to update on the development of baseball in the world.

# 2008年亞洲棒球協會執委會記要

## 麥年豐 香港棒球總會秘書長 亞洲棒球協會委員

忽忽來了韓國首爾住了一天(2月29日),為了開亞洲棒協 (BFA)2008年執委會首次會議。這次會議相當成功,全 體委員均有出席,包括李來炘會長(韓國)、副會長申偉 女士(中國)、副會長松田昌士(Mr. Masatake Matsuda) 之代表(日本)、署理副會長黃文忠、祕書長閔庚勳(韓 國)、委員Mr. Khawar Shah(巴基斯坦)、 Mr. Hector Navasero(菲律賓)及本人,一致落實列各項賽事:

## 1. 2008年

- a. 第五屆亞洲 " AA " 青少棒錦標賽: 8月25-30日在日本靜岡縣伊豆市舉行。
- b. 第八屆亞洲盃: 將由菲律賓主辦,賽期為11月底至12月初。
- c. 第五屆亞洲 "A"少年棒球錦標賽: 12月25-29日由香港主辦,將有八隊參賽。

## 2. 2009年

- a. 亞洲棒球錦標賽將在韓國舉行。
- b. 亞洲 " A A A " 青棒錦標賽將在日本舉行。

此外,亦參照IBAF的標準,訂定了青少年球員的賽齡和 正規賽事的用球。

- a. "A"—11歲和12歲— "C"球(低彈跳)
- b. " A A " 16歲 及以下— " K " 球
- c. " A A A " 18歳及以下

會議期間,巴基斯坦代表提出應該在亞洲大力推展棒 球,特別是加強西亞洲的棒球發展。他建議在該區舉辦 另一組亞洲盃賽事,有利更多西亞洲的國家積極參與。 會議建議巴代表向該區國家作初步調查和進一步了解, 詳情於下次執委會再行討論。









# 二〇〇七臺北市國際城市青少棒錦標賽

2007.12.23~26 臺北市

## 香港聮隊名單

領隊:胡雪岡教練:范家和

球員:鄭宏謙、趙加雋、蔡漢榮、鄒俊明、方子廉、 郭卓霖、羅明義、梁皓男、李駿軒、譚競峰、

謝賦軒、黃鉅生、胡子彤、楊貫軒、翁浚暐

## 香港聯隊簡介:

香港聯隊之球員乃從本地聯賽或精英培訓計劃中選拔組成,部份球員曾參加亞洲"A"少棒錦標賽或亞洲"AA" 青少棒錦標賽。旨在讓各級別球員多參與國際級賽事,提 升球員技術水平,並與各地棒球隊伍建立友誼。

## 賽後感 - 方子廉

另外,很多謝棒球總會再給我一個機會代表香港 出外比賽,亦很感謝范教練和胡領隊的安排和協 助。





# 本地聯賽 《總會盃》棒球聯賽

## 全港棒球公開賽

## 香港棒球總會 主辦 康樂及文化事務署 資助

2007/08年度新秀組賽事由2008年3月至4月舉行。一個讓初學者淺嘗棒球比賽樂趣的起步,球員來自2007/08年度棒球推廣計劃的各區學員,在各推廣班教練義務帶領下,進行了淘汰賽制的賽事,賽事雖短,但這可能是令他們有興趣進一步接觸棒球的大門口。按推廣班的組別,賽事分為青成組、少年A組(10-12歳)及少年B組(7-9歳)。成績如下:

青成組參賽隊伍有Dreams、Spirit、Tomato、Warriors、火箭及武士。冠軍Dreams,亞軍武士。

少年A組冠軍鷹隊,亞軍轟炸機08,季軍高達。

少年B組冠軍燕子,亞軍軍曹。

甲組賽事正如火如荼地進行中,五支本地強隊恒利、Romaiguys、原爆野郎、沙田及X-Team。他們雖是業餘球隊,但有著代表隊的水準;有興趣觀賽人士,逢星期日到藍田晒草灣棒球場走走看。決賽將於5月18日舉行。

2008/09年度賽事緊接五月開鑼,乙組有十四支隊伍參加,將分組進行比賽。 賽程請瀏覽本會網頁www.hkbaseball.org

A組

Ambassadors Dragonflies White

Cubs- Shatin Hercules
Dragonflies Blue Ikari

Kwun Tong Brothers Kings

Mars Promiselanders
Nine West Rookies

上一屆甲組賽事第五名 Sluggers

## 《總會盃》棒球聯賽

## 香港棒球總會 主辦

第三屆賽事於2007年10月至2008年3月舉行。Teeball組賽事在馬鞍山純陽小學棒球場舉行,隊伍有來自屬會的,亦有來自推廣班自組的球隊。冠軍何文田紅雀隊,亞軍巨風,季軍摩天輸。

"AA"青少年組冠軍沙田勇士隊,亞軍紅翼隊,季軍深水埗棒球會,第四名何文田金鶯隊,第五名香港仔棒球會 Dodgers C隊。按聯賽舉行前議決,2008年第五屆亞洲青少年棒球錦標賽的香港代表隊將在是項聯賽中選拔球員。

第四屆預期將於九月展開,組別有TeeBall組(5~8歲)、"A"少年預備組(7~10歲)、"A"少年組(10~12歲)及"AA"青少年組(13~15歲)。

屆時將於 "A"少年組中選拔球員參加年底由香港主辦的"2008年亞洲少年棒球錦標賽"。希望一展身手的小球員,密切留意報名日期(暫定八月初報名)。



# 中銀香港第五十一屆體育節 一

## 2008小馬棒球聯盟(香港區野馬級)聯賽

Bank of China (Hong Kong) 51st Festival of Sport - 2008 PONY Baseball Tournament

(Bronco Division Hong Kong District)

2008. 3. 21~23 晒草灣棒球場







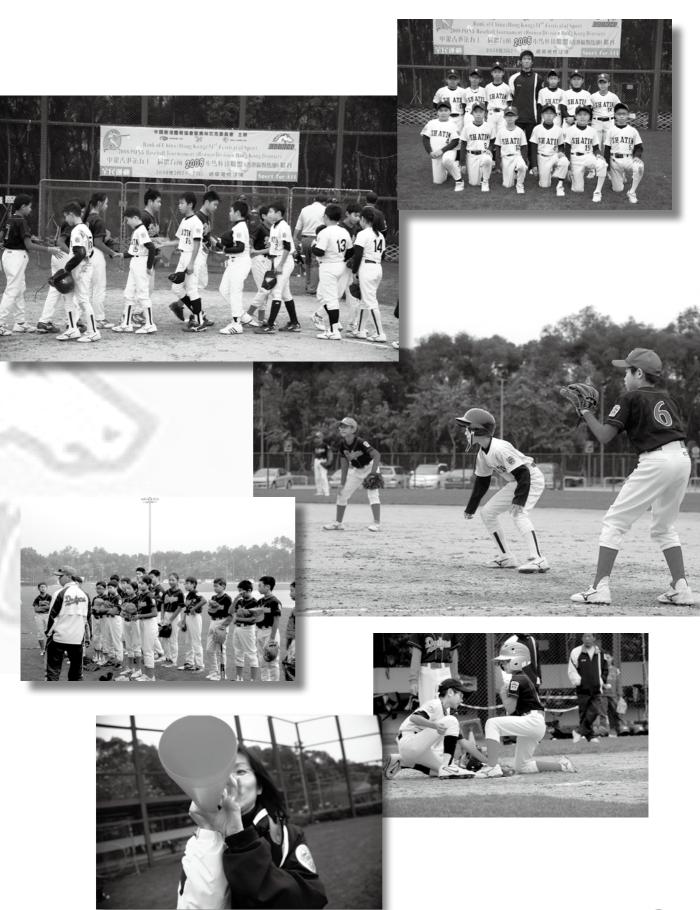
港協暨奧委會 主辦

香港棒球總會 協辦

康樂及文化事務署 資助

攝影鳴謝: Tony Yip Vins Fong







# 我在蜻蜓的七年

Rex Wan 蜻蜓棒球會

## 起步

畢業後,正式投身社會工作。初生之犢,甚麼也想試一試,特別想找一項工餘運動,好讓可以Keep fit之餘,結識多些朋友,擴闊自己的社交圈子。在眾多運動之中,我選擇了棒球,除了是受到日本漫畫的薰陶外,我想最主要的原因應該是,棒球制服很"Cool"吧!千禧年復活節後,參加了鰂魚涌的成人棒球訓練班,由一無所知,到一知半解,一切一切,都很新奇。在還未弄清楚,『局殺』與『封殺』、"Double Play"與"Double Pay"的分別時,我膽粗粗的參加了新秀賽,正式開始了七年的棒球生涯。

#### 成長

香港地寸金尺士,可以供棒球練習的場地曲指可數。澤安邨球場是我星期日指定的流連熱點。除此之外,我很喜歡在平日晚上『走訪』各區的訓練班,界限街、樂富、摩士,還有斧山,都是我的熱門集散地。樂此不疲,我還積極尋找自己的『主場』,大窩口國瑞路排球場,京士柏籃球場都曾經被我們所『徵用』或佔據。棒總所舉辦的各類型專業人員訓練,當然是我不容錯過的,教練、裁判、紀錄員,我都早已經歷過了。

#### 經歷

過去七年中,我們經歷過香港棒球界各大大小小的重要時刻。起初,男子公開組因球隊數目不足,取消甲、乙兩組,統一作賽;幾年後,又因為球隊數目增多,要再次分開甲、乙兩組。2003年決賽,日籍球隊因為一個『問題』全壘打,和裁判發生小爭執,當時我們的隊長正是二壘裁判。2004年夏季聯賽決賽,外籍球隊險勝1:0奪標,整場比賽刺激萬分,高潮迭起,當時本人為紀錄員。2005年度賽事,因為參賽球隊數目劇增但裁判數目嚴重不足,首次引入內地裁判及要求各球隊派球員出席『裁判速成班』,充當壘審。

#### 膨脹

翻閱舊照片,球隊於新秀賽時只得寥寥11人,其後升上男乙,每場比賽都要為出賽人數問題提心吊膽,奪命追魂Call總是打個不停,幸好,總沒有不足9人而落敗的不良記錄。後來在壘球界徵召了幾位重心球員,出席率不足的問題才得以解決。隨著Internet的普及,我們建立了球隊的網站,在搜尋器上輸入"HK baseball",總會找到我們的蹤影,久而久之,開始有想接觸棒球的人找上門,一個、兩個、三個,人數慢慢有穩定的增長,其中更不多慕名而來的。而且球員的國籍開始邁向國際化,有多倫多藍鳥的、有紐約洋基的、也有波士頓紅襪的(意指球迷)。2005年,人數遞增到20多人,蜻蜓歷史性一分為二,以蜻蜓一隊及蜻蜓二隊名義參加公開賽。2006年,蜻蜓棒球會正式成立,登記為棒總旗下之屬會,人數有30多人。



自2000年開始,我們一直都是香港成棒的常客。首一、兩 年,男乙的水準很參差,有為數不少的打擊者是慣常等待 四壞保送的,包括本人;跑壘員到達一壘後,盜壘到三壘 是等閒事;投手偶然三振打擊者,已足夠成為我們整天的 話題。時間一點一滴的過去,大家的經驗也一分一毫的累 積起來,成棒球隊的數目由最初的6、7隊,增加到15隊以 上。剛升上男子公開組的第一年,我們整季只贏得1場, 多麼心傷;然後勝利女神慢慢開始向我們微笑、招手、擁 抱,我們由『魚腩』部隊,開始變成中游隊伍。2005年 度,蜻蜓一隊以小組首名,進身季後賽,最後雖然未能晉 升甲組,但都在15隊中,排行第三名。再經過兩年的洗 滌、磨練,2007年度,蜻蜓會已經是當人不讓的大球會, 一隊及二隊,分別以9-1及8-2的成績雙雙成為小組首名, 繼而進入男乙決賽。2008年1月13日,在藍田晒草灣棒球 場,上演了本季戲碼『蜻蜓一隊大戰蜻蜓二隊』。雖然大 家都是好朋友、好隊員,俗語有云『落場無父子』,雙方 也歇盡所能,絕無手軟。每一投、每一擊、每一盜、每一

#### 兩難

興奮過後,留給我們不少燦爛、光輝的回憶,但卻同時帶來無限的煩惱。根據2007年度公開賽的規則,今年採用一昇一降制,男乙的冠軍可在2008年度昇上甲組,而甲組的最後一名則要降至男乙。問題的重點是,2007年度男甲的賽事在2008年3月才開始,估計2008年度的男甲賽事則要2009年初才有『著落』,那麽,我們豈不是要等足足一年麼?再者,每年比賽的場數是『海鮮價』的,最少的一年,只得5場,為期只有3個月;最長的一年有10場,長達1年;就算我們願意等足1年,2008年度甲組的賽事可能又會因為種種不明朗的因素而有所阻滯,真是,進也難、退亦難!

接都充分表現出多年來的努力、幹勁及熱忱。

#### 展望

由三五成群『柴娃娃』的組隊,到有組織地建立球會,對 蜻蜓會的所有委員、會員都是一個難忘的經歷。姑勿論我 們是不是有足夠實力在甲組站穩陣腳,今時今日的蜻蜓會 已經在香港棒球歷史中,留下了一個小小的印記。我們自 知還有很多可改善的地方及空間,期望日後蜻蜓會繼續為 會員服務、為香港棒球界出一分力。

## China's National Passtime?

Ryan Landolt — Dragonflies Baseball Club (HK)



# Why Hong Kong Should be the Center for Baseball in China?

I have played organized baseball since I was seven years old. My interest goes back as far as I can remember, though. It was my first love. Some of the best memories of my youth are playing baseball with my father, or having him and my mother watch me play. Growing up in New York, we really only got to play during the spring and summer. The rest of the year was just too cold, so we weren't as lucky as the kids in Florida and Texas. But we played as much as we could.

We talked about it too. Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Joe DiMaggio, Micky Mantle, to name just a few great Yankees, were my first introduction to history; Yankee history, baseball history, and in a way, American history as well. It was this appreciation for history that led me to one of my other passions in life: China.

I studied a lot of Chinese history and Chinese literature classes in university, as well as Cantonese (YES! Cantonese). Why did I study Cantonese as opposed to Putonghua, you ask? Well, I knew that I wanted to come to Hong Kong. It's the most cosmopolitan and exciting city in China, and in my opinion, the world. So the decision to learn Cantonese was an easy one. I'm glad I did. Now I'm fluent, and I feel this gives me the ability to appreciate Hong Kong and China in a way that a lot of foreigners can't. After living here for four years, the one thing that I really missed was baseball. Fortunately, thanks to the HKBA and the Dragonflies Baseball Club, I can now do the thing that I love most in the place I love most.

This is really an exciting time in China for sports in general, and baseball in particular. The Olympics later this year will bring unprecedented international coverage to China's best players. The partnerships that Major League teams like my beloved Yankees are developing here ensures that talent will be discovered, and will be developed professionally and properly. And the emergence of stars like Wang Chien-Ming as one of the

best pitchers in all of baseball proves without a doubt that an ethnically Chinese person can compete with and excel against the very best in the world.

So where does Hong Kong stand in all of this? Well, I believe that Hong Kong could (and should) become the center for baseball in China. I don't have any statistics, but I would be willing to bet that there are more North Americans, and therefore people who know how to play baseball, in Hong Kong than in any other Chinese city. (Although I think Vancouver is now technically considered a "Chinese" city, but they're all too busy with hockey and curling anyway.)

Hong Kong also has a much higher standard of English than anywhere in China, and can therefore take advantage of any "foreign experts" without the need for interpreters. Plus, when translation is needed, for example with younger players, the local coaches that I have met would certainly not have any problem interpreting quickly and accurately. Finally, unlike Beijing, Tianjin, and some of the other "baseball" cities in China, Hong Kong is warm all year. This means players do not have to sit around during the winter months waiting for the snow on the field to melt like I had to do when I was a kid.

In my opinion, there really isn't a better sport for Hong Kong and China to put the time, effort, and money into developing. We need to go into the schools. We need to play a lot more games. We need to make sure the few good fields are put to good use and not wasted. We need to take advantage of the people who are committed to baseball and to Hong Kong. And we need to show parents that sports are as good for their kids as any piano lessons or extra French tutorials are in regards to building character and getting into a good university.

Finally, we also have to be more involved in the development on the mainland. I am somewhat out of the loop, so I don't know exactly how much communication goes on, but the more the better. Talent should be developed locally, and those outstanding players should be sent to play in the Chinese Baseball League. And they should be put on stipend in the same way and on the same level as other elite athletes are in Hong Kong. This will make playing baseball economically viable for some local players and the speed of the development will increase exponentially.

Baseball has a future in China and in Hong Kong. As a player, a fan, and the father of a future player, that is exciting. Who knows, maybe the next great Chinese Major Leaguer will spell his name with the Cantonese pronunciation.

# 棒球浪漫(二)

翻譯:三好正記 (Mr. Masanori Miyoshi) ■■■■■ 原文:讀賣新聞

1982年8月8日,梁友德先生(85歳)在名古屋市內某 酒店房內等候一個人到訪,神情顯得有點緊張。

房門打開了,時任日本職棒巨人隊副總教練(現軟體 鷹隊總教練)王貞治(67歳)大步走近梁先生。追溯 2年前,王貞治因為「不能再發揮王貞治的打擊」而退 下職棒現役生涯;而此時友德先生則係引領中國代表

隊來日參加少年棒球國際大 賽,順道帶同球員們訪問巨 人隊的宿舍。

王總教跟每一位小球員握了 手,鼓勵他們說:「棒球是 一項能夠學習協調和忍耐的 體育運動,希望大家積極努 力!」。

儘管棒球的受歡迎程度比不 上足球或籃球,王貞治在中 國仍然是一位備受尊重的人 物。王總教的父親王仕福先 生(1985年去世)出身於 浙江省,國內棒球人都稱呼 王總教作「重要的同胞」。

王總教在1977年打破了當 時由大聯盟選手漢克,阿倫 保持的生涯最多全壘打紀 錄:當時文化大革命剛結束 不久,國內接觸日本的資訊 不易,友德先生卻透過橫濱 的朋友寄來的雜誌和報紙得

悉了此項壯舉。友德先生說:「王先生生涯打了868支 全壘打,過程中經歷了艱苦的訓練,美國人未必很看 得起這項紀錄,我們卻不敢苟同。」

1990年9月, 友德先生在北京跟王總教重逢。1991年 夏天,第二屆世界少年棒球大會於日本千葉縣舉行, 友德先生看到王總教對來自世界各國的小球員一邊指 導打擊技術,一邊鼓勵他們說「很好,很好。」內心

王總教十分肯定中國棒球的發展潛力。上月28日,王 總教就在福岡市的雅虎巨蛋說過:「在棒球裡,弱者 可以憑控制局面得宜而戰勝強者。亞洲人在體格上不及 歐美人,棒球正是適合亞洲人的運動。而中國棒球水平 提升,能帶動整個亞洲的水平一起向上。」為此,他認 為支撐中國棒球達70年之久的梁家故事,應更廣為世 人所知。

王總教的父親由中國來日,友德先生出生於橫濱而帶領

中國棒球界; 兩段人生在中日 兩國間交錯,從中看得出的就 是他們的自豪。而這份自豪, 正是友德先生的父親、「中國 棒球之父」梁扶初先生在祖國 受到列強侵略的時代,仍然堅 守不失的精神。

1924年(大正13年)7月30日 正值炎夏,上空連一片白雲也 沒有;約一萬名觀眾雲集位於 横濱市新山下町的棒球場。球 場靠近海濱,可以聞到陣陣的 海風。

大會共有42支參賽隊伍,當中 包括「三井物產」、「橫濱船 渠」等勁旅。「中華體育會」 狀態大勇, 先以雙位大比數分 樂部」,翌場對「松俱樂部」

別淘汰「內國通運」和「帝俱 亦以6比3勝出。

梁友德先生之父梁扶初先生

(當年32歲)身兼隊經理、一

壘手與主力擊球手三職;主辦大會的是一間報館,該報 刊登了扶初先生的談話:「這場勝利不怎麽了不起, 我們的目標就是要拿下那面冠軍旗。」中華隊曾經在 1922年贏取橫濱市社會人棒球大賽冠軍,被公認是市 內勁旅之一。

可是這天舉行的準決賽,中華隊對「青木俱樂部」開球 不久就失去了大量分數,扶初先生雖然爭取了一個四壞 球上壘,最終3打數沒有敲出安打,球隊亦以13比3大



回國後的梁扶初先生。 身穿有獅子徽章的中華體育會汗衫。



「我很感謝梁家在中國致力普及棒球。」軟體銀行總教練說(7月 28日於雅虎巨蛋)。大原一郎攝

早一年的9月1日,扶初先生在關東大地震失去了年幼的次子和三位同屬中華隊的弟弟。「其復興精神、其悲壯的覺悟誠為野球道之真髓。」當時一份雜誌對球隊的重生致以最高的讚辭的同時,提及比賽中扶初先生的表現:「以鬥志頑強見稱的中華隊此仗顯得意志消沉,唯梁隊長的拼搏表現為球隊留下一絲氣息。」

扶初先生生於中國南部廣東省,1901年跟隨父母越 洋赴日。日本最早期棒球愛好家,以幼名「升(讀音 Noboru)」諧音取其雅號「野球(在此讀音 Nobohru)」 的俳句詩人正岡子規正於翌年結束他34歲的生涯。

當年的橫濱,因為貿易佣金之爭,經常發生日本人與外國人之間的衝突。扶初先生在橫濱認識棒球,14歲的時候在唐人街裡集合20位成員組成了球隊。友德先生憶述:「父親跟我說過,當年他們組成球隊,就是要用棒球來決高下,而不是用拳頭打鬥。」

及後扶初先生從位於東京牛込的成城中學畢業,加入成立不久的明治大學棒球部。1912年11月對早稻田大學一役就有他作為第二任投手登板的紀錄。

橫濱開港資料館(橫濱市中區)伊藤泉美先生對橫濱華 僑歷史素有研究;他指出,有紀錄記載扶初先生在關東 大地震發生後曾一度避難神戶,隨後集合40位同胞折回 橫濱,短短一個月就收容了982具遇難者遺體。 地震過後,社會上流傳一些謠言導致朝鮮人相繼被殘殺 的事件,大量僑居橫濱的華人亦避難離開日本。伊藤先 生說:「他當年折回橫濱,的確需要莫大的勇氣。」

扶初先生對他的祖國有著強烈的自豪感。

扶初先生在震災後的大會落敗,其後他把球隊重建起來,在六年後的大會再度獲得冠軍殊榮。可是一年後的1931年9月發生了九一八事變,1932年1月更發生了一二八事變,扶初先生便舉家回國,那時候日軍已開始向中國各地展開攻勢了。

扶初先生對生活30多年的日本抱著甚麼看法現在不得而知,但直到他1968年去世,就再沒有踏足日本國土。

扶初先生高舉隊訓「覺醒的獅子」,對球員的訓練和紀律要求都非常嚴格。19世紀末的中國曾被稱為「沉睡的獅子」,西方各國對其隱藏的實力仍有戒心,及後甲午戰爭對日本戰敗,中國的威信在國際社會大降。隊訓意識到這段歷史,「覺醒」一詞道出了無論棒球還是國家,都要保持強大的實力。

## 關東大地震與華僑

關東大地震在1923年9月1日上午11時58分發生, 死者及失蹤者多達10萬5000人,當中多名朝鮮人 和華人遭私刑殺害。橫濱市內全面受到毀滅性破壞,唐人街華人中有約1700名罹難。倖免於難的 4000多名華人經海路避難到神戶,當中大多數其 後回國,橫濱華人街的人口因而一度降至400多 人。未能確定身分的遺體合祀於離唐人街之南2公 里的「中華義莊」等地。

