

BASEBALL PRESS RELEASE

5 December, 2011

AUSTRALIAN BASEBALL LEAGUE MAKES PITCH TO THE WORLD

Nearly a half billion baseball fans in over fifty countries are expected to watch Australia's brightest baseball talent from the ABL take on the Leagues top international players in the newly created 2011 ABL All-Star Game at Barbagallo Ballpark in Perth on Wednesday, 21 December at 4pm local time.

The inaugural ABL All-Star game could potentially include as many as 10 current and former Major League players and will feature Australia's National Baseball Team in a single nine inning game against the best import players from the US, Japan, Taiwan, Korea, India and Italy.

The 2011 ABL All-Star game will be televised live in Australia by Fox Sports and Asia through ESPN Star and replayed through the MLB Network in the United States. The estimated audience is expected to be one of the largest ever for a baseball game held in Australia.

The All-Star game will mark the first time in two years Australia's national team will showcase their skills before a home crowd in Perth and the only chance for Aussie baseball fans to see the national team in action on home soil this year.

Minnesota Twins/Perth Heat infielder Luke Hughes, LA Dodger/Melbourne Aces pitcher Shane Lindsay and Sydney pitcher Chris Oxspring, formerly with the Detroit Tigers, are expected to headline the Australian team.

Four international professional baseball leagues will be represented at the event, including players from Major League Baseball, Japan's Nippon Professional Baseball League, the Korean Baseball Organisation and the Chinese Professional Baseball League.

We are grateful for the support of the West Australian Government in helping bring this unique event to fruition and look forward to showcasing our outstanding players to baseball fans in Australia and around the world, says Peter Wermuth, CEO of the Australian Baseball League.

The event, secured exclusively for Western Australia, will showcase our extraordinary State to millions of viewers across the world via Fox Sports and the Major League Baseball (MLB) Network, says WA Tourism Minister, Dr Kim Hames.

The international team is expected to feature Taiwanese defensive whiz Chin-Lung Hu, legendary Korean reliever, Dae-Sung Koo and former New York Yankee pitcher Jason Hirsh amongst many others.

For more information on the ABL All-Star game, please visit www.theabl.com.au.