
Mexico reveals roster for Premier12 global battle

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Group A host team and world No. 6 Mexico announced the final roster for the II WBSC Premier12 2019, the biggest international baseball event of the year and qualifier for the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.

Mexico skipper Juan Gabriel Castro included 14 pitchers (five of them left-handed), two catchers, eight infielders and four outfielders on the roster.

Castro's goal is not only advance to the Super Round but also win the last game of the Premier12 on 17 November at Tokyo Dome. "Our mentality is to win the title in Japan, it must be everyone's mentality", Castro told reporters. "I can't guess the final result; what we can do is to get ready and prepare the best way we possibly can".

Two members of the 2019 Mexican National Team that finished fourth place in the first edition of the Premier12. Left-handed pitcher Brennan Bernardino made three appearances in 2015, saving 2 games (against Venezuela and Canada). In 5.2 innings of work, he didn't give up a single run, with 4 hits, 1 walk and 7 strikeouts. In addition, Juan Perez played Mexico's eight games, as a shortstop and center field. He led the Mexican offensive batting .348 with a homer, 3 RBI and 4 runs.

Mexico will begin the WBSC Premier12 on 2 November at Estadio de Beisbol Charros de Jalisco as host of Group A, alongside No. 2 USA, No. 8 Netherlands and No. 12 Dominican Republic.

"I think we have a good opportunity to advance to the next round with this team, managing our pieces", added Castro. "We know that USA; the Netherlands and the Dominican Republic will come well prepared too, but our goal is not only Jalisco, our goals are also Japan and next year's Olympic Games".

On 26-27 October, Mexico will face No. 9 Venezuela to tune-up for Premier12, in the ["Giants of Latin America" series](#). The two games will be held at the Hermanos Serdan Stadium in Puebla.