



**WORLD
BASEBALL
CLASSIC™**
2023



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CZECH BASEBALL

Due to former communist political regime, baseball doesn't have a long tradition in the Czech Republic, due to it being seen as a symbol of western capitalism. The continuation of sports activities from the YMCA summer camps contributed to the formation of the first clubs or associations. In 1954, Prof. František Stiebitz published college scripts with the rules, methodology and tactics of softball. After that, softball began to be taught at the ITVS, Charles University. This laid the foundations for future teams, both in informal associations and in organized communities. But 1989, year of political revolution, was very crucial for baseball and brought many changes, such as formation of independent leagues.

In 1996, the Czech men's national team advanced to the European Championship Group A and has been playing with the best European teams till now. Since then, Czech Republic has been rising in the world rankings and focusing on its youth programs, that regularly earn medals on the international stage. Adult national team has been placing among the top five European countries in nearly last two decades, but still awaits its first big medal. To get one, is the goal for the 2023 European championship, that is hosted by Czech Republic.



チェコの野球

かつての共産主義政治体制により、野球は西側・資本主義陣営の象徴とみなされていたため、チェコには長い伝統はありません。YMCA のサマーキャンプでのスポーツ活動の継続が、最初のクラブや協会の結成に結びつきました。1954 年にはフランチšek・ステイヴィツ(František Stiebitz)教授が、ソフトボールのルール、方法論、戦術を記した大学教本を出版し、ソフトボールの普及が始まりました。その後、カレル大学の ITVS でソフトボールの指導が開始されました。こうして、後の非公式な団体や組織化されたコミュニティでのチームの基礎が築かれました。1989 年には政治革命が起こり、独立リーグができるなど、野球界にとって大きな変化が起こりました。

1996 年、チェコ男子ナショナルチームは欧州選手権グループ A に進出し、今日まで欧州の強豪チームと戦ってきました。それ以来、チェコは世界ランキングで順位を上げています。特にユースプログラムには力を入れており、国際舞台で定期的にメダルを獲得しています。社会人代表チームは、過去 20 年近く欧州でトップ 5 入りを果たしていますが、大きなメダル獲得は未達成です。2023 年にチェコで開催される欧州選手権では、初のメダル獲得を目標に掲げています。

WBC QUALIFIER IN REGENSBURG

Before the 2022 season, the national team went through a big national team rebuild as the former manager Mike Griffin finished his eight-year span with the team and many veterans retired after their last tournament together, European championship in Italy. Therefore, it was hard to take a clear picture about newly composed team led by Chadim.

Which was clear though, was the strength of the opponents – Spain with professionals from Latin America, Great Britain full of AAA players, Germany refreshed with US-born names and France led by Venezuelan stars from their league and legendary manager Bruce Bochi.

Czechia entered the double-elimination tournament with a horrifying 7-21 loss to Spain. That being team's first international game on big stage, left many question marks in the air. However, the team was able to shake the tough game off with a 7-1 victory against France the very next day, constructed by a great pitching by Ercoli (4 IP, 0 R) and Schneider (4 IP, 1 R).

Chadim's squad was set to battle Germany in game to stay alive and found themselves trailing 0-3 in the bottom of the first. However, team found a great strength and tied it 3-3 with a homeruns by Zýma and Červenka. Czech never looked back as the offense ended up scoring 8 runs followed dominant pitching by their youngsters Padyšák and Kovala.

After the 8-4 victory, the stage was set for a revenge against Spain. Martin Schneider, Czech firefighter on the verge of retiring who only threw 19 inning the whole year in Extraleague, took the ball and silenced Spanish bats over 7 innings (1 run, 5 Ks). Czechs on the other hand needed only two big hits to turn things around, a two-run no doubter by Mužík and solo homerun in the 4th by Chlup to make it 3-1. Game was closed out by Minařík, the so-called "Czech Ohtani," who earned 7 runs as a starter in previous game against Spain but stepped up when it mattered the most. Czech Republic shocked Spain and advanced to the Classic.

WBC 予選 (レーゲンスブルク)

2022年シーズンを前に、マイク・グリフィン (Mike Griffin) 前監督が8年間の在籍を終え、多くのベテラン選手がイタリアでの欧州選手権を最後に引退するなど、チェコ代表はチームの立て直しを経験しました。そのため、ハデム監督を中心とした新体制のチームは、明確なビジョンを持っていませんでした。

スペインは中南米出身のプロ選手、イギリスはAAA級の選手、ドイツはアメリカ生まれの選手で構成され、フランスはベネズエラリーグのスター選手と伝説の監督ブルース・ボチが率いるなど、対戦相手の強さは一目瞭然でした。

チェコは、スペインに7-21で敗北し、敗者復活戦に望むことになりました。大舞台での初の国際試合は屈辱的な結果を残しました。しかし、翌日のフランス戦では、エルコリ (4IP, 0R) とシュナイダー (4IP, 1R) の好投で、7-1で勝利し、厳しい試合を振り切ることができました。

ハデム監督率いるチームは、残留をかけたドイツ戦に臨み、1回裏には0-3とリードされるものの、チームは大きな力を発揮し、ジーマとチエルヴェンカのホームランで3-3の同点に追いつきました。その後、チェコは若手のパディ・シャークとコバラの活躍で合計8点の差をつけ、逆転しました。

8-4でドイツに勝利し、スペインへのリベンジの舞台が与えられました。この日登板したマルティン・シュナイダー (チェコの消防士、エクストラリーグで年間19イニングのみの登板) は、7イニングにわたってスペイン打線を沈黙させました (1R, 5K)。同時に、チェコは、ムジークの文句なしの2ランと、4回のフルブのソロホームランで3-1と逆転に成功しました。勝負を決めたのは、前戦のスペイン戦で先発出場し7失点を許した、「チェコの大谷」とも呼ばれるミナジークでした。チェコはスペインに衝撃を与え、クラシックの進出を決めました。

PETR DITRICH

President of Czech Baseball Association



We made it to the World Baseball Classic for the first time, on our third attempt. The cards are not dealt completely well, our preparation in the frozen Czech Republic was mostly in gyms, we never played indoors, rarely on artificial surfaces. In the Czech Republic, hundreds of spectators attend the Extraleague at most, in Tokyo Dome we expect tens of thousands, the game against Japan should mark the attendance record for game of our national team.

From the end of 2021 we are preparing the Men's European Championship in the Czech Republic. We will play from 24 September in five cities: Brno, Ostrava, Prague, Trebic and Blansko. We are looking forward to great attendance and we want to prepare an accompanying program for the spectators. We would like to win a medal at the European Championships, first in our history, as we often finish just outside the top 3. And we are ready to change that.

But now let's all enjoy the World Baseball Classic. Cheers everyone and special recognition to the fans who made the trip all the way to far away Tokyo. We appreciate and need everyone!

ご挨拶— ペトル・デイトリツヒ

3度目の挑戦で初めてワールド・ベースボール・クラシックに出場しました。条件はあまり良いとは言えず、寒いチェコでの準備はほとんどジムで行われ、屋内でプレーすることはなく、人工芝の上でもほとんどプレーすることができませんでした。チェコでは、エクストラリーグの観客数はせいぜい数百人ですが、東京ドームでは数万人と予想されており、日本戦は、チェコ代表チームの試合としては最高観客動員数の記録するはずでした。

2021 年末から、チェコ共和国で男子欧州選手権の準備を進めています。9 月 24 日から、ブルノ、オストラヴァ、プラハ、トレビッチ、ブランスコの 5 つの都市でプレーします。多くのご来場をお待ちしておりますので、観客向けの付随プログラムを準備したいと考えています。欧州選手権では史上初となるメダルを獲得したいと考えています。これは、トップ 3 のすぐ外でフィニッシュすることが多いためです。そして、それを変える準備ができています。

2021 年末から、チェコで男子欧州選手権の準備を進めています。9 月 24 日から、ブルノ、オストラヴァ、プラハ、トシェーチ、ブランスコの 5 つの都市で試合を行います。多くの観客が集まることを期待していますし、観客に楽しんでもらえるようなプログラムを用意したいと思っています。これまでトップ 3 に入ることがなかったので、欧州選手権では、史上初のメダル獲得を目指したいですし、これまでの歴史を変える準備はできています。

ともあれ、今はみんなでワールド・ベースボール・クラシックを楽しみましょう。そして、遠く東京まで足を運んでくれたファンに特別な感謝を捧げます。皆に感謝し、皆様からの応援を必要としています！



PAVEL CHADIM

Manager of the Czech national team



The World Baseball Classic is a dream come true for many baseball generations. At the same time, participation is a great motivation for our young talented players who have succeeded in many Youths European and World tournaments over the past decade. We are fighting not only for the respect of Czech baseball, but given the rosters of other European WBC participants, also for the respect of the European baseball program in general. We believe that if we play regularly with world-class teams, it is in the power of European players not to get lost in this competition.

We have 29 players on the roster who have been through the Czech Extraleague, our top competition, and the team is rounded out by Eric Sogard and Willie Escala. Both have strong Czech roots, their mothers of Czech nationality married abroad. Especially Eric, who played 10 years in the famous MLB, will bring to our team the experience of how to manage games in front of more than 50 thousand spectators.

The teams that await us in Group B are every coach's dream, every team that wants to improve. We start with China, which represents 1.5 billion people, then an evening match with the best team in the world according to the WBSC ranking. This Saturday's game with home team Japan, followed by Sunday's game with Korea, a weekend doubleheader with the absolute top teams in the world and favorites of the entire WBC, will forever go down in Czech baseball history. At the end of the group, the Australian team, which represents one whole continent, but especially in the last Premier 12 tournament finished in a great sixth place.

Few would have believed it if they had looked at the level of the first World Baseball Classic in 2006, when my favorite player Ichiro Suzuki led Japan to the title in the final against Korea. Back then, I rode in the elevator with Ichiro at Tokyo Dom completely by chance, but this year we'll be on the same stage alongside world-class players.

ご挨拶— パヴェル・ハディム

ワールド・ベースボール・クラシックは、多くの野球世代にとって憧れの大会です。同時に、過去 10 年以上にわたり、多くのユース欧州大会や世界大会で結果を残す才能ある若い選手たちにとって、この大会への参加は大きなモチベーションとなっています。他のヨーロッパの WBC 参加チームの名簿を見ると、私たちチェコ代表チームは、チェコ野球界の尊重だけではなく、ヨーロッパの野球プログラム全般の発展のためにも戦っていると言えます。世界トップクラスのチームと定期的に対戦すれば、ヨーロッパの選手たちはこの競争で埋もれることがないと信じています。

チェコ最高峰の大会であるチェコ・エクストラリーグを経験した選手が 29 名在籍しており、エリック・ソガードとウィリー・エスカラの 2 人がチームを支えています。2 人とも チェコ国籍の母親を持ち、チェコに強いルーツを持っています。特にエリックは有名な MLB で 10 年間プレーした経験があり、5 万人以上の観客のいる場所での試合経験を生かして、チームに貢献してくれることでしょう。

グループ B で我々を待ち受けているのは、すべての監督の夢である、上を目指すチームです。15 億人を代表する中国から始まり、その後 WBSC ランキングで世界最高のチームとの試合が続きます。土曜日にはホームチームの日本との試合、日曜日には韓国との試合と、WBC 全体の優勝候補であり、世界の絶対的なトップチームとの二連戦は、チェコの野球史に永遠に刻まれることでしょう。グループ最後の対戦となる、1 つの大陸全体を代表するオーストラリア代表は、特に前回のプレミア 12 では 6 位とすばらしい成績を収めています。

私の大好きなイチロー選手が、韓国との決勝戦で日本を優勝に導いた 2006 年の第 1 回ワールド・ベースボール・クラシックのレベルを見ていたら、この状況信じる人はほとんどいなかったでしょう。当時、東京ドームで偶然にもイチロー選手とエレベーターで一緒になりましたが、今年の世界トップクラスの選手たちと同じ舞台に立つこととなります。





ACCOUNT MANAGER

PR MANAGER

TEACHER

FIREFIGHTER

THURSDAY
 9/3/2023
 12 AM (4 AM CET)

CZECH REPUBLIC

CHINA

SATURDAY
 11/3/2023
 7 PM (11 AM CET)

CZECH REPUBLIC

JAPAN

SUNDAY
 12/3/2023
 12 AM (4 AM CET)

CZECH REPUBLIC

KOREA

MONDAY
 13/3/2023
 12 AM (4 AM CET)

AUSTRALIA

CZECH REPUBLIC

ONE TEAM

ONE DREAM



No.	Given Name(s)	Family Name	Pronunciation	Position	Bat (R/L/S)	Throw (R/L)	"Height (cm/ft)"	"Weight (kg/lbs)"	Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)	"Birth Place (City, Country)"
1	Michal	Kovala	MIH-hal KOH-vah-lah	RHP	Right	Right	5'11" / 180cm	179lbs / 81kg	12.28.2003	Czech Republic, Ostrava
7	Tomáš	Duffek	TOH-mash DOO-fek	LHP	Right	Left	6'1" / 185cm	181lbs / 82kg	09.12.1989	Czech Republic, Prague
8	Jan	Tomek	YAHN TOH-mek	RHP	Right	Right	5'11" / 180cm	179lbs / 81kg	01.29.1992	Czech Republic, Frýdek-Místek
13	Martin	Schneider	MAH-rtin SHNY-der	RHP, SS	Right	Right	6'2" / 187cm	187lbs / 85kg	03.04.1986	Czech Republic, Olomouc
14	Filip	Čapka	FI-lip CZAHP-kah	RHP	Right	Right	6'2" / 187cm	203lbs / 92kg	11.04.1998	Czech Republic, Brno
15	Marek	Minařík	MAH-rek MIH-nah-jeek	RHP, OF	Right	Right	6'8" / 203cm	234lbs / 106kg	06.28.1993	Czech Republic, Louny
18	Jeffrey	Barto		LHP	Left	Left	6'0" / 182cm	176lbs / 80kg	09.15.1989	Boise, ID
23	Daniel	Padyšák	DAH-nih-yel PAH-dish-ahk	RHP	Left	Right	6'4" / 193cm	211lbs / 95.5kg	07.02.2000	Czech Republic, Prague
34	Jan	Novák	YAHN NOH-vak	LHP	Right	Left	6'2" / 187cm	192lbs / 87kg	01.19.1994	Czech Republic, Prague
35	Ondřej	Satoria	ON-jay SAH-toh-rhi-ya	RHP	Right	Right	5'9" / 175cm	168lbs / 76kg	02.26.1997	Czech Republic, Ostrava
43	David	Mergans	DAH-vid MER-gahns	RHP	Right	Right	6'1" / 185cm	163lbs / 74kg	02.27.2002	Czech Republic, Brno
57	Jake	Rabinowitz		RHP	Right	Right	6'5" / 195cm	234lbs / 106kg	10.29.1987	New York City, NY
60	Lukáš	Hlouch	LOOH-kash HLOUH	RHP	Right	Right	6'5" / 195cm	241lbs / 109.5kg	12.12.2000	Czech Republic, Třebíč
63	Lukáš	Ercoli	LOOH-kash ER-coli	LHP	Right	Left	6'3" / 190cm	201lbs / 91kg	04.17.1996	Czech Republic, Roudnice nad Labem
32	Daniel	Vavruša	DAH-nih-yel VAH-vrooh-sha	C, INF	Right	Right	6'4" / 193cm	201lbs / 91kg	07.09.1991	Czech Republic, Prague
55	Martin	Červenka	MAH-rtin CZER-ven-kah	C, INF	Right	Right	6'4" / 193cm	225lbs / 102kg	03.08.1992	Czech Republic, Prague
2	Jakub	Hajtmar	YAH-kuhb HIGH-tmar	INF	Right	Right	6'3" / 190cm	176lbs / 80kg	06.14.1987	Czech Republic, Brno
5	William	Escala		INF	Right	Right	5'11" / 180cm	179lbs / 81kg	12.11.1998	Miami, FL
9	Eric	Sogard		INF	Left	Right	5'10" / 177cm	192lbs / 87kg	05.22.1986	Phoenix, AZ
16	Filip	Smola	FI-lip SMOH-lah	INF	Left	Right	6'1" / 185cm	198lbs / 90kg	10.04.1997	Czech Republic, Prague
31	Milan	Prokop	MIH-lahn PROH-kop	INF	Right	Right	6'0" / 182cm	194lbs / 88kg	02.12.2003	Czech Republic, Bučovice
40	Jakub	Kubica	YAH-kuhb KOO-bit-za	INF	Left	Right	5'11" / 180cm	183lbs / 83kg	03.13.1998	Czech Republic, Ostrava
49	Martin	Mužik	MAH-rtin MOO-zheek	C, UTL	Right	Right	5'11" / 180cm	198lbs / 90kg	04.23.1996	Czech Republic, Hluboká nad Vltavou
77	Vojtěch	Menšík	VOY-tyek MEN-sheek	INF	Right	Right	6'1" / 185cm	183lbs / 83kg	05.24.1998	Czech Republic, Brno
97	Marek	Krejčířík	MAH-rek KRAY-czi-jeek	UTL	Left	Right	5'9" / 175cm	165lbs / 75kg	06.27.2001	Czech Republic, Třebíč
99	Petr	Zýma	PE-ir ZEE-mah	INF	Right	Right	6'0" / 182cm	192lbs / 87kg	07.28.1989	Czech Republic, Prague
20	Arnošt	Dubový	AHR-nosht Doo-boh-vee	OF	Right	Right	5'11" / 180cm	188lbs / 85kg	04.01.1992	Czech Republic, Brno
30	Jakub	Grepl	YAH-kuhb GRE-pl	OF	Right	Right	6'4" / 193cm	194lbs / 88kg	10.14.1999	Czech Republic, Ostrava
33	Matěj	Menšík	MAH-tyay MEN-sheek	OF	Right	Right	6'2" / 187cm	225lbs / 102kg	05.11.1992	Czech Republic, Brno
73	Marek	Chlup	MAH-rek HLOOP	OF	Right	Right	6'4" / 193cm	236lbs / 107kg	01.09.1999	Czech Republic, Český Dub



Pavel Chadim



#11

Manager

Age: 51

Job: neurologist

Bio: Life-long baseball enthusiasts, one of the great national team players (CF) and an incredible coach who took part in some of the best successes in county's history, as he led the Czech baseball to its many medals at the youth European championships. At the beginning of 2022, he took over the national team after well-experienced Canadian Mike Griffin. Nine months later he advanced with the team to its first ever World Baseball Classic.

John Hussey



#22

Pitching coach

Age: 36

Job: Pitching coach of Hroši Brno (Czech Extraleague)

Bio: Former MiLB pitcher born in Australia, that spent 7 seasons in the system. In 2015 he found his way to the Czech Extraleague as an ace for Technika Brno, where he later started coaching and never looked back. Right now, he lives with his family in Brno and works as a pitching coach with the Hroši Brno, working with some of the best Czech prospects, such as Boris Večerka who signed with the Diamondbacks in December.

David Winkler



#28

3rd base coach

Age: 42

Job: manager of structural company

Bio: Former national team catcher, Extraleague legend and a well-known coach back in Europe. He became part of the coaching staff with Pavel Chadim. Founder of Baseball Academy Brno that took part at numerous academies tournaments and international competitions such as the Pony League World Series and Youth European championships.

Mike Griffin



#28

Bench coach

Age: 37

Job: Founder and coach of Pro5 Academy (USA)

Bio: The great manager, that's led Czech baseball to new heights during his eight years with the national team (2013-2021). Canada native made a great impact on only with the men national team but had an enormous role in creating a pattern for Czech prospects into college and high-school baseball in the United States. Well-respected coach, manager whose signature will forever remain under the success of Czech baseball.

Alexander Derhak



#47

Hitting coach

Age: 42

Job: Manager of Hroši Brno (Czech Extraleague)

Bio: US-born catcher with five-year experiences from the American Independent ball. Alex got into the Czech Extraleague back in 2010, playing for American scout and coach Rick Jacques at Technika Brno. Alex settled his roots in Czechia. After five titles later with Draci he started working as a manager, leading Hroši Brno to its first ever Extraleague finals.

No.	Given Name(s)	Family Name	Pronunciation	Current Club	Position
18	Pavel	Chadim	PAH-vel HA-dim	Draci Brno	manager
23	David	Winkler	DAH-vid VIN-kler	Draci Brno	coach
1	Alexander	Derhak		Hroši Brno	coach
15	John Henry	Hussey		Hroši Brno	coach
35	Michael Tyler	Griffin		independent	coach
13	Joseph	Truesdale		Kotlářka Praha	coach
14	Dušan	Randák	DOO-shan RAHN-dahk	independent	coach
34	David	Nevěřil	DAH-vid NE-vye-jil	Tempo Praha	coach
60	Hynek	Čapka	HIHN-ek CZAHP-kah	Draci Brno	BP pitcher
8	Michael	Vykoukal	MIH-ha-el VIH-koh-kahl	Arrows Ostrava	bullpen catcher



PITCHERS

Michal Kovala



#1

Age 19 **Height** 6-0 **Weight** 180

Team: Georgia Tech (USA), Arrows Ostrava (CZE)

Job: Student at D1 College

Nickname: Kowalski, Micro

Hobbies: video games, gym

Best advice ever: Do it now because you would have to do it later anyway

Favorite MLB player: Dustin Pedroia

Biggest asset: Energy

Guilty pleasure: Rick and Morty (TV Show)

2022 stats – USA High school

W-L	ERA	IP	SO
5-0	0.20	35	51

Bio: Generational talent, who moved to the US to start his high school career in North Carolina. Currently ranked #1 European prospect by the Perfect game rankings. He was a huge part of the WBC squad. In his premiere season with the national team, he tossed 4.2 inning with 0 ER to close out the game against Germany packed with professional players.

PITCHERS

Jan Tomek



#8

Age 31 **Height** 5-9 **Weight** 180

Team: Regensburg Legionnaire (GER)

Job: pitcher and coach in Regensburg

Nickname: JT

Hobbies: motorcycles, camping, hiking

Favorite MLB player: Nolan Ryan

Biggest asset: Laundry loops

Favorite action hero: Wolverine

Guilty pleasure: RRRrrrr!!! (2004)

2022 stats – Bundesliga

W-L	ERA	IP	SO
1-1	2.43	33	34

Bio: Veteran pitcher with incredible international experience after spending the last decade traveling European top leagues. He is a pitcher and youth program coach for the Regensburg, Germany, who just finished his German education and looking for a job. "If anyone interested, hit me up."

Tomáš Duffek



#7

Age 33 **Height** 5-10 **Weight** 185

Team: Eagles Praha (CZE)

Job: manager of baseball regional development

Nickname: Duffy

Hobbies: family with two kids

Best advice ever: Just go out there and have fun

Favorite MLB player: Derek Jeter

Biggest asset: Experience

Guilty pleasure: Too hot to handle (TV Show)

2022 stats – Extraleague

W-L	ERA	IP	SO
5-5	4.10	92	88

Bio: Well-experienced pitcher on the international stage. Lefty pitcher with multiple release angels with college baseball experience. Life-long ace for the Eagles Praha in Czech Extraleague that holds a club record for the most regular season Ws (88).

Martin Schneider



#13

Age 36 **Height** 6-1 **Weight** 187

Team: Skokani Olomouc (CZE)

Job: Firefighter

Nickname: Schneidy, Omar

Hobbies: guitar, drawing, woodwork

Best advice ever: Just be yourself

Favorite MLB player: Derek Jeter, Omar Vizquel

Biggest asset: Mental toughness

Guilty pleasure: Commando (1985)

2022 stats – Extraleague

W-L	ERA	IP	SO
1-0	1.42	19	22

Bio: Incredible two-way force, that was the starting shortstop for Czechia in last decade and a great arm in the bullpen. He's led the team to many big victories and won the Czech Extraleague 10 times with Draci Brno. Despite tossing only 19 innings last year, he pitched 7.1 innings with 1 ER and 5 Ks against Spain to clinch the WBC.



PITCHERS

Filip Čapka



#14

Age 24 **Height** 6-1 **Weight** 177

Team: Twins Oosterhout (NED), Draci Brno (CZE)

Job: baseball player overseas

Nickname: Čapoun

Hobbies: traveling, video games, books

Best advice ever: Be comfortable with being uncomfortable

Favorite MLB player: Justin Verlander

Biggest asset: Not being a quitter

Guilty pleasure: Eurotrip (2004)

2022 stats – Extraleague

W-L	ERA	IP	SO
11-3	3.73	101	106

Bio: Draci Brno number one starter of the last season with college ball experience from the Wake Tech Community College. After finishing his engineering degree in Czechia, Čapka started his international career in Australia this winter and already signed a contract to play in Netherland in the upcoming season.



Marek Minařík

#15

Age 29 **Height** 6-7 **Weight** 225

Team: Tempo Praha (CZE)

Job: Real-estate entrepreneur

Nickname: Míňa, Shohei

Hobbies: sauna, volleyball

Best advice ever: control the controllable

Favorite MLB player: Tyler Glasnow

Biggest asset: Clutch pitching

Guilty pleasure: The Mentalist (TV Show)

2022 stats – Extraleague

W-L	ERA	IP	SO
4-3	3.63	40	52

Bio: Often called the “Czech Shohei Ohtani” for his great results as a two-way player, finishing the 2021 Extraleague season with the most HRs (14) and strikeouts (139). Former MiLB pitcher for the Pirates and Phillies organizations. He’s led the team to some of its biggest victories and closed out the WBC clinching game against Spain.

PITCHERS

Jeffrey Barto



#18

Age 33 **Height** 6-0 **Weight** 176

Team: Třebíč Nuclears (CZE)

Job: Baseball coach and manager

Nickname: Barto

Hobbies: hunting, fishing, biking

Best advice ever: Up and In, Down and Out, don’t walk anybody

Favorite MLB player: Barry Zito, Johan Santana, Andy Pettite

Biggest asset: Pitch command

Guilty pleasure: Czech Christmas candy

2022 stats – Extraleague

W-L	ERA	IP	SO
4-2	2.57	35	33

Bio: One of the few foreign names at the roster but make no mistake, Barto is legally a Czech citizen, having a wife and child born in Czechia. He came to the Czech Extraleague in 2016 as a pitcher. After couple of seasons Barto moved to Croatia to play and coach in Split. In 2021, he returned to as a pitching manager for Třebíč Nuclears.



Daniel Padyšák

#23

Age 23 **Height** 6-5 **Weight** 222

Team: CSU Bucs (USA), Kotlářka Praha (CZE)

Job: Student at D1 College (USA)

Nickname: Pady

Hobbies: guitar

Favorite MLB player: Nolan Ryan

Biggest asset: Right arm

Favorite action hero: Ironman

Guilty pleasure: Frozen (2013)

2022 stats – NCAA

W-L	ERA	IP	SO
1-4	5.93	40	37

Bio: One of the huge talents of the upcoming generation, currently a pitcher for the Charleston Southern University (D1) with aspirations to get drafted in the upcoming years. In 2022, he helped CSU to its first conference championship since 2000. He recorded a W against Germany packed with pro-ball players at the WBCQ (4.1 IP, 3 ER, 3 Ks).



PITCHERS

Jan Novák



#34

Age 29 **Height** 6-2 **Weight** 195

Team: Sokol Hluboká (CZE)

Job: sales representative

Nickname: Johnny

Hobbies: ceramics, woodwork

Best advice ever: Breathe with your nose

Favorite MLB player: Max Fried

Biggest asset: Finishing through no matter what

Guilty pleasure: Hunter x Hunter (2011)

2021 * stats – Extraleague (*injury 22)

W-L	ERA	IP	SO
15-0	1.38	72	92

Bio: Former MiLB pitcher for the Baltimore Orioles, huge talent, and experienced national team pitcher. Lefty starter in the Czech Extraleague that dominated the league in 2021 with 1.38 ERA and 94 strikeouts in 74 innings. Elbow injury kept him out for the most of last season.

PITCHERS

David Mergans



#43

Age 21 **Height** 5-9 **Weight** 165

Team: Draci Brno (CZE)

Job: publicist at lifestyle magazine

Nickname: Megi

Hobbies: skateboarding, fashion

Best advice ever: Throw strikes!

Favorite MLB player: Marcus Stroman

Biggest asset: Positive mindset

Favorite action hero: Domino

2022 stats – Italy Series B

W-L	ERA	IP	SO
3-0	2.40	56	84

Bio: One of the Czech prospects on the team who made a huge leap in his progress last couple of years with Draci Brno, which also led him to his first year in the international experience with Milano in Italian Series B.

Ondřej Satoria



#35

Age 26 **Height** 5-8 **Weight** 168

Team: Arrows Ostrava (CZE)

Job: technician at electricity company

Nickname: Saty

Hobbies: hiking

Best advice ever: Fu*k it

Favorite MLB player: Marcus Stroman

Biggest asset: Extreme competitiveness

Favorite action hero: Darth Vader

2022 stats – Extraleague

W-L	ERA	IP	SO
3-5	3.57	81	56

Bio: Veteran pitcher of the Arrows Ostrava who's led the team to its three Extraleague titles and national team to many victorious. In 2021 he records a W against Mexico at the U23 World Cup, the reigning champ that went undefeated in the previous tournament.

Jake Rabinowitz



#57

Age 35 **Height** 6-2 **Weight** 255

Team: Třebíč Nuclears (CZE)

Job: coach of a baseball youth program

Nickname: Big sweat

Hobbies: Playing with my kids

Best advice ever: Practice and play like someone's always watching

Favorite MLB player: Derek Jeter

Favorite action hero: Wolverine

Guilty pleasure: Snacks

2022 stats – Extraleague

W-L	ERA	IP	SO
4-4	4.63	70	69

Bio: Well experienced veteran with incredible desire to win. Jake moved to Czech Republic in 2014 as a foreign player to Extraleague. Found a Czech wife and settled as a player-coach in Prague, helping young prospects with development. Jake gained his Czech passport last year, that allows him to represent the country, that's been his home for the last nine years, at the international stage.



PITCHERS

Lukáš Hlouch



#60

Age 22 **Height** 6-1 **Weight** 220

Team: Třebíč Nuclears (CZE)

Job: mechanic at electricity company

Nickname: Candy

Hobbies: hiking, gym

Best advice ever: Trust in yourself

Favorite MLB player: David Ortiz

Biggest asset: Team player

Favorite action hero: HULK

2022 stats – Extraleague

W-L	ERA	IP	SO
2-1	3.27	22	22

Bio: Czech Extraleague pitcher who is making his national team breakthrough in the latest years. He's been to several MLB training camps; college showcases and international tournaments. Lukas was in contact with several interested MLB organizations couple years ago, but never signed.

CATCHERS

Daniel Vavruša



#32

Age 31 **Height** 6-2 **Weight** 190

Team: Heidenheim Heidekopfe (GER), Kotlářka Praha (CZE)

Job: baseball goods salesman

Nickname: Daneček

Hobbies: Soccer and Slavia Praha

Best advice ever: Stay within yourself

Favorite MLB player: Aaron Judge

Biggest asset: Team spirit deviser

Favorite action hero: Harry Potter

2020 stats – Extraleague

AB	AVG	HR	RBI
125	.368	4	24

Bio: Former MiLB catcher for the Yankees, life-long national team player and a great guy to have in the locker room all around. Vavruša retired in the beginning of 2021 but came back last year to play for the Heidenheim Heidekopfe in German Bundesliga. As a veteran he also accepted his role of well experienced backup catcher that every team needs.

Lukáš Ercoli



#63

Age 26 **Height** 6-3 **Weight** 201

Team: Hroši Brno (CZE), Kotlářka Praha (CZE)

Job: PR manager for Baseball Czech

Nickname: Kólie

Hobbies: surfing, cross-country skiing

Best advice ever: Manners maketh man

Favorite MLB player: Nestor Cortés

Biggest asset: Media coverage

Guilty pleasure: Beers

2022 stats – Extraleague

W-L	ERA	IP	SO
7-2	2.29	99	104

Bio: Lukas made his national team debut last year as he became the best pitcher of the Extraleague. Even though he was supposed to come to WBCQ as Baseball Czech PR manager, which is his daily job, he ended up tossing 4 innings with 0 ER against France becoming the first ever Czech-born pitcher to record a W at the Classic.

Martin Červenka



#55

Age 30 **Height** 6-4 **Weight** 232

Team: Tempo Praha (CZE)

Job: publicist at lifestyle magazine

Nickname: Barry

Hobbies: Golf

Best advice ever: there were many...

Favorite MLB player: None

Biggest asset: "Ask my teammates"

Guilty pleasure: Big band theory (TV Show)

2022 stats – Extraleague

AB	AVG	HR	RBI
151	.424	15	49

Bio: The best player ever born in Czechia, who spent 10 seasons in the MiLB system, ended up inches close an MLB start for the Mets after joining the team due to couple of injuries, but never made the active roster. A great catcher, team leader and a well experienced guy that has been a huge part of the team's success in the last decade. After the 2021 season, he returned to the Czech Extraleague.



INFELDERS

Jakub Hajtmar



#2

Age 35 **Height** 6-2 **Weight** 180

Team: Draci Brno (CZE)

Job: sales representative, baseball coach

Nickname: Hajta

Hobbies: reading, fishing

Best advice ever: If your life is not at stake, nothing at stake

Favorite MLB player: Derek Jeter

Biggest asset: Competitiveness, experience

Favorite action hero: Martin Schneider (firefighter and a pitcher)

2022 stats – Extraleague

AB	AVG	HR	RBI
147	.306	1	20

Bio: Veteran player with almost twenty years of experience in the national team. Hajtmar is a life-long infielder for Draci Brno, where he became a 15-time Extraleague champion. Former MiLB player for the Minnesota Twins program and a great leader for the team, who helps the development of Czech prospects as a personal coach.

Willie Escala



#5

Age 24 **Height** 5-11 **Weight** 185

Team: Sussex County (USA)

Job: professional ballplayer

Nickname: Chilly Willie, Skala

Hobbies: working on cars, golf, snowboard

Best advice ever: Hard work guarantees nothing, but without it you don't stand a chance

Favorite MLB player: Dustin Pedroia

Biggest asset: Versatility, good energy

Guilty pleasure: Frozen Thin Mints

2022 stats – College (USA – D1)

AB	AVG	HR	RBI
207	.275	2	22

Bio: Son of a Cuban father and Czech mother will make his national team debut on the 2023 World baseball classic. He spent five years in the college ball (D1 and D2) in Florida. Infielder with also some independent ball experience is expected to bring more competitiveness to the Czech roster.

INFELDERS

Eric Sogard



#9

Age 36 **Height** 5-10 **Weight** 180

Team: Free agent (MLB)

Job: professional ballplayer

Nickname: Nerd power, Sogie

Hobbies: Dad-life, outdoor adventures

Best advice ever: Don't get stuck in the past, don't try to fast-forward to future you haven't earned

Favorite MLB stadium: Fenway Park

Biggest asset: Knowledge of Nutrition and Functional Movement

Favorite action hero: Superman

Guilty pleasure: Donuts

2021 stats – MLB

AB	AVG	HR	RBI
169	.249	1	12

Bio: As the only player on the roster with MLB experience, Sogard became the ambassador for Baseball Czech at the 2023 World baseball classic. He has played in Major League Baseball (MLB) for the Oakland Athletics, Milwaukee Brewers, Toronto Blue Jays, Tampa Bay Rays, and Chicago Cubs. His nickname "Nerd Power" was given to him by Athletics fans who liked his play style and distinct glasses. He earned his official Czech citizenship in February 2022.

Filip Smola



#16

Age 25 **Height** 5-9 **Weight** 190

Team: Tempo Praha (CZE)

Job: auditor at KPMG company

Nickname: Smolič

Hobbies: traveling

Best advice ever: No reason to s**t your pants

Favorite MLB player: Troy Tulowitzki

Biggest asset: Hard worker

Guilty pleasure: Sex and the city (TV Show)

2022 stats – Extraleague

AB	AVG	HR	RBI
137	.314	10	25

Bio: Filip is hard-hitting third baseman with a lot of overseas experience as he spent a season with the IMG Academy, two years at the Saddleback college in California and two years at the University of Charleston. After his five years in the US, he returned home to lead the Tempo Praha to its first ever Extraleague semifinals last year.



INFELDERS

Milan Prokop



#31

Age 19 **Height** 6-1 **Weight** 215

Team: Draci Brno (CZE)

Job: student (sports management)

Nickname: Milan

Hobbies: gym

Best advice ever: It's good to take it easy sometimes

Favorite MLB player: Derek Jeter

Biggest asset: Getting team veterans under pressure

Guilty pleasure: All American (TV Show)

2022 stats – Extraleague

AB	AVG	HR	RBI
106	.236	2	20

Bio: One of the young guns on the roster, that is expected to be the future of the national team. Milan spent the last two year playing High-School ball in the US for the Combine Academy in North Carolina. He is a college student of sports management at Masaryk University in Brno.

INFELDERS

Martin Mužík



#49

Age 26 **Height** 6-0 **Weight** 215

Team: Start Baseball Club (AUS) / Sokol Hluboká

Job: stadium groundkeeper and coach

Nickname: Mužajs, Sků

Hobbies: fishing, video games

Best advice ever: I like it, but I like this better.

Favorite MLB player: Mike Trout

Biggest asset: Power hitting

Guilty pleasure: The Simpsons (TV Show)

2022 stats – Extraleague

AB	AVG	HR	RBI
145	.468	14	57

Bio: Martin is the definition of swinging for the fences. He became part of the offensive core in the latest years, and a power-hitting captain for his hometown Extraleague club Sokol Hluboká. The first baseman has solid overseas experience, after spending two years at the Wake-Tech Community College, where he became the NJCAA Division II Second Team All-American in 2017. He is the author of a 2-run game winning homerun to clinch the WBC.

Jakub Kubica



#40

Age 24 **Height** 6-0 **Weight** 165

Team: Arrows Ostrava (CZE)

Job: manager of sales at electricity company

Nickname: Krab

Hobbies: volleyball

Favorite MLB player: Nolan Arenado

Biggest asset: Defense

Favorite action hero: Spiderman

Guilty pleasure: American sniper (2014)

2022 stats – Extraleague

AB	AVG	HR	RBI
139	.338	0	16

Bio: Kubica is one of few guys with no international experience other than the national team. He grew up in Ostrava where he's been playing his whole career. As he grew into an incredible lead-off, helping the Arrows to 3 titles over 4 years in the Extraleague. He holds an Extraleague record for regular season OBP, when he finished the 2020 with 0.692.

Vojtěch Menšík



#77

Age 24 **Height** 6-0 **Weight** 182

Team: Hroši Brno (CZE)

Job: student

Nickname: Muatah

Hobbies: hiking, movies

Best advice ever: Yesterday's history, tomorrow's mystery, but today is a gift

Favorite MLB player: Trea Turner

Favorite action hero: Spiderman

Guilty pleasure: Rapping Eminem songs

2022 stats – MiLB

AB	AVG	HR	RBI
159	.214	0	19

Bio: Former top Czech prospect, one of few to be a stable starter for a big D1 program. In 2021, Menšík became the first Czech to play in the College World Series, playing 3B for the NC State Wolfpack. Later that year, he signed with the LA Angels. Unfortunately, "Muatah" got released after the draft, playing the MiLB for half only a season. Huge part of the WBC Qualifier with .526 OBP at the lead-off spot, five homeruns and a perfect defense.



Marek Krejčířík



#97

Age 21 **Height** 5-7 **Weight** 168

Team: Hroši Brno (CZE)

Job: driver for a grocery delivering company

Nickname: Mára

Hobbies: video games

Best advice ever: In the end, it comes down to how you can handle it

Favorite MLB player: Ichiro Suzuki

Biggest asset: Speed and youth

Favorite action hero: Wolverine

2022 stats – Extraleague

AB	AVG	HR	RBI
132	.250	2	16

Bio: Czech utility prospect, infielder, and outfielder with the ability to go out on the mound. One of the few players to participate at back-to-back Little League World Series (2013-2014). The Hroši Brno prospect would like to start his overseas career in the upcoming years, traveling the world as a baseball player.

Arnošt Dubový



#20

Age 31 **Height** 5-10 **Weight** 187

Team: Draci Brno (CZE)

Job: high school teacher (gym, geography)

Nickname: Dub, Army

Hobbies: sport, friends, family

Best advice ever: If you want something, you've got to give it your all

Favorite MLB player: Mike Trout

Biggest asset: Determination

Guilty pleasure: Never have I ever (TV Show)

2022 stats – Extraleague

AB	AVG	HR	RBI
166	.373	2	26

Bio: It's hard to find a guy with bigger motivation to prove himself than Dubový. Veteran player who despite his great success with Draci Brno in the Czech Extraleague never really got to the national team starting lineup in the last decade. After the generational rebuild last year, he became the starting center fielder and a key player for Chadim's squad. Great teammate with underdog mentality, who always know how to keep things loose.

Petr Zýma



#99

Age 33 **Height** 5-8 **Weight** 185

Team: Eagles Praha (CZE)

Job: account manager at trading company

Nickname: Zý-men

Hobbies: music, woodwork

Best advice ever: Keep it simple

Favorite MLB player: Derek Jeter

Favorite action hero: Paw patrol crew

Guilty pleasure: The Godfather (1972)

2022 stats – Extraleague

AB	AVG	HR	RBI
151	.258	3	22

Bio: Team captain, Extraleague veteran and a great leader overall. After 2021, Zýma retired from the national team, but coach Chadim used his long relationship with Petr to make him come back as a captain. Later that year, Zýma led to the team to its first ever WBC bound. He also has college ball experience after two years at the NCAA level (2012-13).

Jakub Grepl



#30

Age 23 **Height** 6-3 **Weight** 195

Team: Arrows Ostrava (CZE)

Job: student (political studies)

Nickname: Greplík

Hobbies: politics, reading

Best advice ever: yesterday's victory not winning today's game

Favorite MLB player: Derek Jeter

Favorite action hero: Harry Potter

Guilty pleasure: Too hot to handle (TV Show)

2022 stats – Extraleague

AB	AVG	HR	RBI
117	.325	2	17

Bio: Utility player of the Arrows Ostrava who is gaining his experiences in his second year with the national team. One of the guys of the next generation for the national team. That being said, he has already been around adult baseball, winning three Extraleague titles with the Arrows Ostrava.



Matěj Menšík



#33

ONE TEAM

Age 30 **Height** 6-1 **Weight** 223

Team: Technika Brno (CZE)

Job: director of sports operations in a baseball club

Nickname: Matěj

Hobbies: biathlon, music, movies

Best advice ever: Treat others the way you want to be treated

Favorite MLB player: hard to pick one... Julio Rodriguez

Biggest asset: Calm and experience

Guilty pleasure: Gilmore girls (TV Show)

2022 stats – Extraleague

AB	AVG	HR	RBI
132	.560	17	50

Bio: Even though he has a veteran role on the team, he's entering only his third year with the national team as he gained his spot in the lineup after the 2021 rebuild. A power hitting left fielder, who will always work hard to compete against the best. A huge MLB and World baseball classic fan all around.



Marek Chlup



#37

ONE DREAM

Age 23 **Height** 6-4 **Weight** 223

Team: NGU Crusaders (USA) / Eagles Praha

Job: student (college USA)

Nickname: Terminator

Hobbies: history, any sports activities

Best advice ever: Live in the moment

Favorite MLB player: Bryce Harper

Biggest asset: Clutch performance

Guilty pleasure: Never back down (2008)

2022 stats – College (USA – D2)

AB	AVG	HR	RBI
228	.390	12	75

Bio: On of the greatest hitter ever born in Czech Republic. Outfielder with 4-year college experiences with the DI NC State Wolfpack and DII North Greenville University. Chlup had a phenomenal season last year, as he became the conference player of the year and a DII World Series champion with NGU. Huge asset at the Qualifier with a .353 BA and 2 homeruns.



SO FAR, A REALLY BUSY 2023 FOR CZECH NATIONAL TEAM

Since the qualification for the WBC in Regensburg, we have redesigned our winter preparation, it is certainly not easy or even usual to prepare for the best players in the world and even in March. After an active rest and individual preparation of the players in the clubs until Christmas, we gathered in January for a mountain conditioning camp, where we have already taken our batting cages and pitching mounds to the gym. From mid-January the batters and pitchers will be doing live BP together and we will still do a short Spring Training in Valencia, Spain at the end of February before flying to Japan on 1 March.

DINNER AT THE JAPAN AMBASSY IN CZECH REPUBLIC

Czech national team will play in the Pool B of the Classic in Tokyo, which also marked a start of a great friendship with his excellency Mr. Hideo Suzuki, respected Japan ambassador in Czech Republic. First, Mr. ambassador accepted the invitation to Baseball Czech Gala, that traditionally marks the end of the baseball season. His excellency wished its best to Czech ballplayers and received a baseball with signatures of all players and coaches.

Mr. Suzuki enjoyed the evening so much he decided to invite the whole team to his residency in Prague for a dinner in January. It was a first official visit for Czech team at any international political mention and they couldn't enjoy it more. Lots of baseball talk, seven course tasting menu and a beginning of great camaraderie for the years ahead.

MATUŠKA BREWERY AND JAPAN BEER

During the World Baseball Classic practice weekends in Prague, the national team visited Broumy, a small village near Prague of about a thousand residents. The main topic of the visit – beer, of course. In Broumy resides Matuška Brewery, small family business that makes beer the artisan way without filtration or pasteurization. The brewery is heavily connected to Czech baseball thanks to the CEOs Adam Matuška and Matěj Šůcha, who grew up playing for Kotlářka Praha and capped their career with a Extraleague title in 2015.

チェコ代表にとって、2023年は多忙の一年になりそうです。

レーゲンスブルクでのWBCの予選以来、チェコ代表は冬の準備の見直しを行いました。世界最高峰の選手たちを相手に、しかも3月に準備をするのは確かに簡単なことでも通常のこともありません。選手たちはクラブでのアクティビストと個別の準備をクリスマスまで行い、1月にはバッティングケージとピッチングマウンドを体育館に持ち込んでの山岳調整キャンプを行いました。1月中旬からは、バッターと投手と一緒にライブBPを行い、2月末にはスペインのバレンシアで短い春季トレーニングを行い、3月1日に日本に向けて出発する予定です。

在チェコ日本国大使館での夕食会

チェコ代表チームは東京で開催されるクラシックのプールBでプレーします。この大会は、尊敬される日本大使である鈴木秀夫氏との素晴らしい友情の始まりをも意味しています。ベースボール・チェコ・ガラに招待を受けた鈴木大使は、野球シーズンの終わりを伝統的に祝うこのイベントに出席しました。大使は、チェコの選手たちにエールを送り、選手やコーチ全員のサインが入った野球ボールを受け取ってくださいました。

鈴木大使は、このイベントを大変気に入られ、1月にはチーム全員をプラハの公邸に招待し、夕食会を開いてくださいました。チェコ代表にとって、国際的な政治的な場での公式訪問は初めてであり、これ以上ない喜びでした。野球談義に花が咲き、7品のコース料理が供され、今後数年にわたる素晴らしい友情の始まりとなりました。



The Matuška crew prepared a tour of the brewery for our national team, joined by his excellency Hideo Suzuki, Japan ambassador in Czech Republic and the MLB film crew. Other than enjoying Matuška special edition beers and traditional Czech snacks, the ballplayers themselves helped making a World Baseball Classic beer from Japanese hop, that will be served in Prague's restaurants in March. In honor of national team games in Tokyo.



MLB FILM CREW CAME TO CZECHIA

In January, Czech Republic had the honor of hosting an MLB film crew, that has come to make a short documentary of coaches' and players' stories getting ready to their first ever WBC. Video crew led by producer Matt Mantyla and MLB writer Michael Clair spent a very adventurous week in Czechia, as they got to visit the players at their day-to-day jobs, national team practices or ice-hockey game of the Czech top league. Obviously, the crew couldn't miss the dinner at Japan embassy and visit to Matuška brewery.

DOCUMENTARY: SMALL COUNTRY BIG DREAMS

Those 6 days in Regensburg really marked the biggest success in Czech baseball history, as a team put together of players that must work on day-to-day basis took on MLB and MiLB professionals and turned out victorious. The incredible story is captured in a 30-minute documentary by Martin Claus and Tomas Ičík, full of behind-the-scenes content and interviews with national team stars. Watch it for free with English and Spanish subtitles at: [Youtube.com/baseballczech](https://www.youtube.com/baseballczech).

マトウシュカ・ブルワリー (MATUŠKA BREWERY)と日本のビール

プラハで行われたワールド・ベースボール・クラシックの週末練習の間、チェコ代表チームはプラハ近郊の人口 1000 人ほどの小さな村、プロウミ(Broumy)を訪問しました。訪問の目的は、ビールです。プロウミにはマトウシュカ醸造所という小さな家族経営の会社があり、ろ過や低温殺菌をしない職人的な方法でビールを作っています。ブルワリーは、CEO のアダム・マトウシュカ (Adam Matuška) とマチェイ・シューハ (Matěj Šůcha) の二人がプレーをしていたコトラルカ・プラハ (Kotlářka Praha) を通じて、チェコ野球と深く関わっています。二人は 2015 年にエクストラリーグのタイトルを獲得しキャリアを締めくくっています。

マトウシュカ・ブルワリーのスタッフは、チェコ代表チーム、チェコの日本大使である鈴木英雄氏、そして MLB の撮影クルーのためにブルワリーの見学ツアーを用意しました。特別仕様のマトウシュカビールや伝統的なチェコの軽食を楽しむだけでなく、野球選手たちは日本産ホップを使用した WBC ビールを作る手伝いもしました。これは東京でのチェコ代表チームの試合を記念しており、3 月にプラハのレストランで提供されます。

チェコに MLB 撮影クルーが来訪

1 月、チェコは MLB の撮影クルーを迎える機会を得ました。彼らは、初めての WBC に向けた、コーチや選手たちの物語を収めた短編ドキュメンタリーを制作するため訪れたのです。プロデューサーのマット・マンティラ氏と MLB ライターのマイケル・クレア氏率いる撮影クルーは、チェコで 1 週間、選手が日々働く職場やナショナルチームの練習、チェコのトップリーグでのアイスホッケーの試合などで選手を訪問し、非常に充実した時間を過ごしました。もちろん、日本大使館での夕食会やマトウシュカ醸造所へも訪問しました。

ドキュメンタリー：小さな国の大きな夢(英題：Small Country Big Dreams)

レーゲンスブルクでの 6 日間は、日々仕事に励む選手たちで構成されたチームが、MLB や MiLB のプロ選手相手に対戦し、勝利を収めるという、チェコ野球史上最大の成功をもたらしました。この驚くべき物語は、マルティン・クラウス (Martin Claus) とトマス・イチーク (Tomas Ičík) による 30 分のドキュメンタリーに収められており、チェコ代表のスターたちへのインタビューや舞台裏の内容が盛り込まれています。英語とスペイン語の字幕付きで無料で視聴できます：[Youtube.com/baseballczech](https://www.youtube.com/baseballczech)