

# *Baseball: VII edition of the national Under 23 tournament begins*

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Havana, August 2 (ACN) - After several months of training, the VII National Baseball Series Under 23 Years will be inaugurated, which will feature 16 teams divided into four groups and two geographical zones.

For segment A of the Western league, the duels on Tuesday will be based on Pinar del Rio-Isla de la Juventud and Artemisa-Havana, to be held at the Capitán San Luis and 26 de Julio stadiums, respectively.

Meanwhile, for key B of the west, the national runner-up Cienfuegos will host Villa Clara at the 5 de Septiembre Park and Matanzas will host Mayabeque at the Victoria de Girón Stadium.

In addition, in group C of the eastern zone, the champion Sancti Spíritus will host Las Tunas at the José Antonio Huelga Park, while Camagüey will do the same with Ciego de Ávila at the Cándido González Park.

And in sector D of the eastern league, the national bronze medalists Santiago de Cuba and Guantánamo, as well as Holguín-Granma, will play against each other at the Guillermon Moncada and Calixto García stadiums, in that order.

According to reports, each team will play only 15 games in the qualifying phase, all of them seven-inning games.

The National Baseball Commission ruled wise measures to protect several U-23 players, who have had a difficult year 2022 and who are members of the senior national pre-selection team.

Pitchers Naykel Cruz (MTZ) and Marlon Vega (MAY) will have their work regulated, while Matanzas catcher Andrys Pérez will only be able to wear his harnesses in one game of each sub-series, but he could play as first baseman or designated hitter.

The last version of the national under-23 baseball series was played in 2019. The epidemiological situation that came with the COVID-19 prevented its continuity in 2020 and 2021.

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