# **ALL-STAR ENGLISH**

A Project Beisbol Newsletter

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## The Nationals Wrap Up Season with an Impressive Victory

The second season of the All-Star English League has already come to an end, how time flies! The Commissioner's Office is extremely impressed with the performance of all teams throughout the whole season and is eagerly looking forward to the next one.

The Nationals were the Season #2 champions with a .884 ASE average. Let's give a big shout-out to *Laura Rubio* from Atlantico and *Frank Rodríguez* and *Jeremy Bolivar Hernandez* from Norte de Santander for their outstanding performance. Teamwork makes the dream work!



Laura Rubio

Frank Rodríguez





Jeremy Bolivar Nicolas Rodríguez

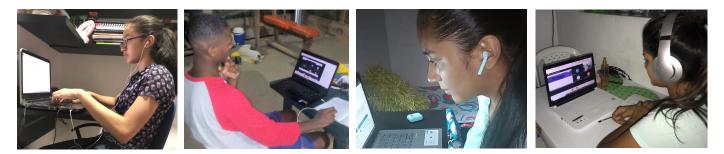
Their coach, Nicolas Rodriguez, couldn't be any prouder of his team, "It is fascinating to see their tireless work and desire to improve. It has been a constant learning process. Two of the players on the team are from Norte de Santander, an emerging baseball and softball region on the Venezuelan border. Many refugees settle here to flee the ongoing crisis in this country." Project Beisbol is thrilled to be able to support Venezuelan students, like Jeremy Bolivar. His family had to migrate to Colombia to find work and food. Jeremy's dedication and success inspire us to expand the program to even more young players.

The *Cardinals, Mets, Cubs* and *Tigers* were the other top five teams in the league with very impressive ASE Averages. Let's see if the Nationals can maintain their lead as the program keeps expanding across Colombia and the region next season.

## **About All-Star English**

All-Star English is a unique and interactive online English program for motivated student athletes in Latin America. This interest-based program incorporates baseball and softball concepts into the language acquisition methodology, creating a fun and dynamic learning experience.





Launched in August 2020, the program has expanded to serve nearly 100 students in eight departments (states) in Colombia thanks to the support of the *U.S. Embassy in Colombia*. Our sponsor *DHL* has supported the program by donating 55 laptop computers through the *DHL-Helping Learners* program thanks to Esteban Rivas and longtime Project Beisbol board member Thomas Lee. We believe that this collaboration among the government, education, business and non-profit sectors is the future of social change globally.

The core value propositions of ASE are small class sizes (4 max.), employing a unique interest-based approach, and serving low-income populations that otherwise would not have access to quality English instruction. Furthermore, we use real-life incentives to motivate the students in class. For instance, at the end of each season, the student with the best ASE Average (MVP) and the players on the championship team win a new Rawlings glove of their choice. View <u>student testimonial videos</u>.



## **Regional Highlight: Chocó, Colombia**

Chocó, located in Western Colombia, is a region full of lush jungles and vast coastlines on the Pacific Ocean and Caribbean Sea. It is home to 525,000 people of primarily Afro-Colombian descent. Over the years, this region has faced numerous political, social and economic challenges due in part to its extreme geographic isolation. Despite the regional difficulties, the beautiful and talented people of Chocó continue to awe the world with their art, music, cuisine and passionate athletes.

Project Béisbol has dedicated a great deal of its efforts in the region over the past three years to help bring the community together in support of baseball, softball and education. In 2019, we ran the first "Choco Baseball and Softball - United by a Passion" event. It included baseball and softball clinics, equipment donations, and leadership, and conflict resolution workshops. The program united teams from eight vulnerable communities in and around Quibdó, and benefited approximately 130 children and 20 coaches, including refugees from Venezuela. Most recently, Project Beisbol made a huge equipment donation to the Club de Beisbol Aslan Contreras in Acandi, Chocó, thanks to the MLB Players Trust and other generous equipment donors in the USA.



Clubes de Béisbol: 108, Los Amigos and Sin Fronteras Quibdó, Chocó

Thanks to the *U.S. Embassy* in Colombia, All-Star English was able to increase its support for Chocó in the second season. We would like to highlight the department's leaders from the second season: Adrián David Martínez, Miguel Andrés Cardozo, Javier Galvan, Tatiana Cordoba, Deiner Moreno García and Luis Darío Moreno, all with ASE Averages above .800. Nicely done!





Indigenous Community - Isla La Paloma **Quibdó, Chocó** 



Escuela de Béisbol Aslán Contreras Acandí, Chocó

### League Leaders: Season #2

All-Star English is extremely proud of all its participants. The players showed great enthusiasm, dedication and hard work. There are a few specific All-Stars we would like to acknowledge for outstanding performances.

It seems that the girls ruled this season once again. The season two MVP was *Ángela Maria Ruiz*, a talented 19-year-old softball player from Cali, Colombia. She knocked it out of the park with a .939 ASE Average. This pitcher and future Sports Nutrition student is seeking a softball scholarship at a university in the USA, like many of the students in our league. Angela recently expressed great passion for Project Beisbol's mission and thus has joined our team as the new Volunteer Community Relations Coordinator. She will manage relations with Project Beisbol's beneficiary programs on a national level in Colombia. Thank you and congratulations! You go, girl!





Ángela Maria Ruiz

"I think that the importance and impact that All-Star English and Project Beisbol will have on my life will be extraordinary and open many doors. The learning methodology and the teachers are wonderful, every time I want to learn more and more. I would like to thank Project Beisbol and the U.S. Embassy in Colombia for offering this program, and of course Jed Lowrie of the Oakland A's for sponsoring my scholarship. Thank you very much for this amazing opportunity." -*Ángela Maria Ruiz.*  Not far behind was the runner-up *Ana Sofia Laguna*, a 15-yearold softball pitcher from Sucre, with a .909 ASE. Let's not forget that she was nominated MVP last season with a 1.000 ASE Average. With this persistence and continued performance, it seems that she wants to stay at the top. We will be watching her closely next season.

"This English teaching program based on baseball and softball has allowed me to reach a level I'm proud of, in a short time. I want to be a professional in softball and also I want to win a scholarship to go to study in the USA. All-Star English has empowered me to learn English every day and to express myself correctly. I thank the Project Beisbol team and donors for giving me such a great opportunity to learn English in a free and personalized way." - *Ana Sofia Laguna* 



Ana Sofia Laguna

Three other young ladies rose to the occasion this season with nearly perfect ASE Averages. Outfielder and second base *Laura Sofía Acuña Aconcha* from Atlantico with .908, rookie outfielder and third base *Jeliza Padilla Castillo* from Sucre with .905, and veteran shortstop *Jeny Ruiz* from Antioquia with .908. Both Jeliza and Jeny play for our partner, *Fundación Campo de Sueños.* We are so proud of you, keep it up!



Laura Sofía Acuña

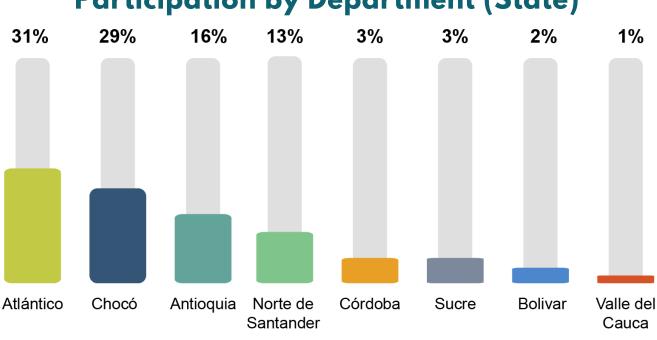
Jeliza Padilla

Jeny Ruiz

## ASE Average Leaders: Season #2

PLAYERS	DEPARTMENT	ASE AVG
Angela Maria Ruiz	Valle de Cauca	.939
Ana Sofia Laguna	Sucre	.909
Laura Sofía Acuña Aconcha	Atlántico	.908
Jeliza Padilla Castillo	Sucre	.905
Jeny Ruiz	Antioquia	.900
Valentina Jimenez	Antioquia	.899
Jorge Manuel Colón Peña	Atlántico	.892
Frank Wuillians Rodríguez	Norte de Santander	.891
Mariana Zapata Herrera	Antioquia	.888
Laura Vanessa Rubio Ortiz	Atlántico	.884
Jeremy Carlo Bolivar	Norte de Santander	.878
Juan Andres Muñoz	Norte de Santander	.873
Angelica Peñata	Córdoba	.871
Gabriel Alejandro Márquez	Norte de Santander	.869
Adrián David Martínez Ayala	Chocó	.865
Wilder Rocha	Córdoba	.865
Miguel Andrés Cardozo	Chocó	.858
Javier Galvan	Chocó	.840
Tatiana Cordoba	Chocó	.838
Yolima Ferreira	Bolivar	.836
Deiner Moreno García	Chocó	.834
Luisa Padilla	Atlántico	.831
Mayerli Viloria	Antioquia	.830
Ihan Ethiel Pérez Pacheco	Atlántico	.817
Melanie Julieth Jimenez	Atlántico	.810
Luis Darío Moreno Meléndez	Chocó Atlántico	.809
Valentina Elizabeth Niebles		.808. .800
Dayana Usuga Mieles	Antioquia	.800





### **Participation by Department (State)**

## League Standings: Season #2

ТЕАМ	СОАСН	WINS	LOSSES	ASE AVG
1 Nationals	Nicolas Rodriguez	36	3	.884
2 Cardinals	Luisa Diaz	35	4	.872
3 Mets	Shawn Chattin	34	5	.855
4 Cubs	Shawn Chattin	34	5	.855
5 Tigers	Jenny Acosta	33	6	.853
6 Royals	Luisa Diaz	31	8	.800
7 Phillies	Maria Ceballos	31	8	.797
8 Blue Jays	Luisa Diaz	31	8	.788
9 Yankees	Shawn Chattin	30	9	.777
10 Dodgers	Shawn Chattin	29	10	.756

"It's in the standings where you see the real fruits of the work carried out during the season."

The National's Coach - Nicolas Rodriguez









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