



Media Release

Announcement to the press

Thursday, January 23, 2020
Santen Pharmaceutical Co, Ltd.
Japan Blind Football Association

Santen Pharmaceutical Selected as Title Sponsor of IBSA Blind Football World Grand Prix 2020!

— New tournament name decided as
the Santen IBSA Blind Football® World Grand Prix 2020 in Shinagawa,
with 8 participating national teams.
Draw also announced with Japan in Group A! —



Santen Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (Head Office: Osaka; Chairman and CEO: Akira Kurokawa; hereinafter, "Santen") and the Japan Blind Football Association (Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo; Chief Director: Shiro Shiojima; hereinafter, "JBFA") today held a press conference to announce that Santen has been selected as the title sponsor of the IBSA Blind Football World Grand Prix 2020 (in Tennozu Park, Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo) to be held from Monday, March 16 to Saturday, March 21, 2020. On the same day, national teams participating in the World Grand Prix were announced and the draw was held. The name of the tournament has been changed accordingly, and the new name will be " the Santen IBSA Blind Football World Grand Prix 2020 in Shinagawa ".

In addition to Japan, it was announced that the participating countries were announced and a draw was held. 8 countries including Argentina (Ranked No. 1 in the World Ranking), Brazil (Ranked No.2), China

(Ranked No.3), Spain (Ranked No.5), France (Ranked No.11), Thailand (Ranked No.15), Germany (Ranked No.20) and Japan (Ranked No.13) announced that they will participate. Among the countries coming to Japan this time, 5 countries other than Thailand and Germany have the right to participate in the Tokyo 2020 Paralympics. As a result of the draw, Japan will be in Group A.

In the briefing of this year's World Brand Prix at the beginning of the press conference, it was announced that; Santen has been selected as the event's title sponsor, and that the event would bear a new name. As a specialized ophthalmic company, Santen resonated with the JBFA's vision and mission and concluded a partnership agreement with the JBFA in March 2017. Since then, Santen has sponsored the Japanese national men's and women's blind football teams and supported events organized by the JBFA to provide children with visual impairments with opportunities to participate in sports. Santen President and COO Shigeo Taniuchi expressed his enthusiasm and expectations for the company's subsequent collaboration with the JBFA as follows: "I am very honored and glad that Santen can be the title sponsor of the IBSA Blind Football World Grand Prix 2020. I hope that the JBFA and Santen unite their assets and strengths to further accelerate their efforts in Japan and the rest of the world to promote blind football, increase public understanding of disabilities and impairments, enhance the quality of life of people with visual impairments, and mitigate or eliminate visual impairments through medical treatment."



In the following draw, with the cooperation of the speakers, Japan were divided into Group A, and France which is the same pod as Japan, were divided into Group B so that the participating teams from the same region would not be biased. Group A, the same as Japan, will be Argentina, China, Germany, and Group B will be Brazil, Spain, France, and Thailand. The 2nd place teams in each group will advance to the semifinals on the 20th, and the final, the 3rd place match and the ranking match will be held on 21st (Last Day) to decide the final ranking.

Tickets for the tournament will be available from 18: 00 today, Thursday, January 23.

Ticket Purchase Site: http://www.b-soccer.jp/13166/news/wgp2020_ticketguide.html

● Outline of the Santen IBSA Blind Football® World Grand Prix 2020 in Shinagawa

1. Event name: Santen IBSA Blind Football® World Grand Prix 2020 in Shinagawa
2. Dates: Monday, March 16 to Saturday, March 21, 2020
3. Venue: Shinagawa Municipal Tennozu Park (2-6-23 Higashi Shinagawa, Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo)

4. Main organizers: International Blind Sports Federation, Japan Blind Football Association
5. Special co-organizer: Shinagawa-ku
6. Co-organizers: Japanese Para-Sports Association, Japanese Paralympic Committee
7. Official website (in Japanese): <https://www.wgp-blindfootball.com/>
8. Participating countries (8): Argentina (Ranked No. 1 in the world), Brazil (Ranked No.2 in the world), China (Ranked no.3 in the world), Spain (Ranked No.5 in the world), France (Ranked No.11 in the world), Thailand (Ranked No.15 in the world), Germany (Ranked No.20 in the world), and Japan (Ranked No.13 in the world)
9. Draw: Group A – Argentina, China, Japan, and Germany
Group B – Brazil, Spain, France, and Thailand
10. Schedule

| 試合スケジュール Schedule | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|---|------------------|
| 日程 Date | チケット番号 Ticket # | キックオフ Kickoff Time | グループ Group | 対戦カード Match-up | | |
| 3月16日 (月) 16 Mar (Mon) | 1 | 11:00 | B | ブラジル / Brazil | - | スペイン / Spain |
| | | 13:30 | B | フランス / France | - | タイ / Thailand |
| | 2 | 16:45 | A | アルゼンチン/Argentina | - | 中国 / China |
| | | 19:15 | A | 日本 / Japan | - | ドイツ / Germany |
| 3月17日 (火) 17 Mar (Tue) | 3 | 11:00 | B | スペイン / Spain | - | タイ / Thailand |
| | | 13:30 | B | フランス / France | - | ブラジル / Brazil |
| | 4 | 16:45 | A | 中国 / China | - | ドイツ / Germany |
| | | 19:15 | A | 日本 / Japan | - | アルゼンチン/Argentina |
| 3月18日 (水) 18 Mar (Wed) | 5 | 11:00 | B | タイ / Thailand | - | ブラジル / Brazil |
| | | 13:30 | B | スペイン / Spain | - | フランス / France |
| | 6 | 16:45 | A | ドイツ / Germany | - | アルゼンチン/Argentina |
| | | 19:15 | A | 中国 / China | - | 日本 / Japan |
| 3月19日 (木) 19 Mar (Thu) | 大会中日 (試合はありません) / Off (No Matches) | | | | | |
| 3月20日 (祝・金) 20 Mar (Fri) | 7 | 10:00 | 下位トーナメント① / 5th Tournament① | | | |
| | | 12:30 | 準決勝① / Semi Final① | | | |
| | 8 | 15:30 | 下位トーナメント② / 5th Tournament② | | | |
| | | 18:00 | 準決勝② / Semi Final② | | | |
| 3月21日 (土) 21 Mar (Sat) | 9 | 10:00 | 7位決定戦 / 7th Place Playoff | | | |
| | | 12:30 | 5位決定戦 / 5th Place Playoff | | | |
| | 10 | 15:30 | 3位決定戦 / 3rd Place Playoff | | | |
| | | 18:00 | 決勝戦 / Final | | | |
| | | 19:45 | 表彰式 / Closing Ceremony | | | |

● Results of past tournaments

2018 – Winner: Argentina; 2nd place: England; 3rd place: Turkey (Japan: 5th place)

2019 – Winner: Argentina; 2nd place: England; 3rd place: Spain (Japan: 4th place)

● Latest world blind football rankings (as of January 2019)

<http://www.ibsasport.org/news/files/1756-1-IBSA-Blind-Football-Ranking-as-of-1st-January-2019.pdf>

● About Santen

As a specialized company dedicated to ophthalmology, Santen carries out research, development, marketing, and sales of pharmaceuticals, over-the-counter products, and medical devices. Santen is the market leader for prescription ophthalmic pharmaceuticals in Japan, and its products now reach patients in more than 60 countries. With scientific knowledge and organizational capabilities nurtured over a nearly 130-year history, Santen continues to contribute to society by providing valuable products and services centered on the well-being of patients and their loved ones.

For more information, please visit Santen's website (www.santen.com).

● About the Japan Blind Football Association

The Japan Blind Football Association was established in October 2002, with Misako Kamamoto as Chief Director. In October 2015, it became a nonprofit organization. Blind football is included in the Paralympic Games, and it has been decided that Japan is qualified to participate as well since it is hosting the Tokyo 2020 Games. In addition to the World Blind Football Championships in 2014 and Asian Blind Football Championships 2015, both held in Shibuya-ku, Tokyo, the JBFA carries out diversity promotion programs for children and adults alike, such as Supo-iku and OFF TIME Biz. The JBFA has broadened the scope of its activities beyond the framework of a conventional organization that focuses only on strengthening athletic ability.

JBFA's website (in Japanese): www.b-soccer.jp

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