

# S. Korea to invite MLB 'Field Guru' to work grounds at WBC site

By Yoo Jee-ho

SEOUL, Jan. 20 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will invite a veteran big league field expert to work the grounds at the site of the upcoming World Baseball Classic (WBC), officials said Friday.

The Korea Baseball Organization (KBO) said Murray Cook, president of Brickman Sports Turf, and field and ballpark consultant for Major League Baseball (MLB), will be here from Sunday to next Thursday to help prepare Gocheok Sky Dome in Seoul for the March tournament.

The nation's only domed ballpark will host the first round action featuring South Korea, Israel, the Netherlands and Chinese Taipei starting March 6.

Dubbed the "Field Guru," Cook has over three decades of experience managing professional and amateur baseball fields worldwide. He has published "Baseball Field Maintenance: A General Guide for Fields of All Levels," through the Baseball Tomorrow Fund, a joint initiative of MLB and the MLB Players Association.

The KBO said Cook will be joined by the maintenance crew for the Nexen Heroes, the dome's tenant in the KBO and representatives from World Baseball Classic, Inc., the organizing committee of the tournament. They will work on the mound, infield and bullpen.

Field maintenance workers from other KBO teams will be brought in to the stadium next Tuesday to watch Cook at work.

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