

“I think it’s going to be extraordinary,” said Edmonton International Baseball Foundation director Don Clarke.

Female officers from the Edmonton Police Service, RCMP, Canadian Forces and STARS Air Ambulance will serve as the colour guard.

“And then, there should be some pretty good baseball,” Clarke said.

The Canadian team’s tryout camp, involving 30 players from across Canada, starts Wednesday at Spruce Grove.

Canada will be looking to improve upon its performance at the 2010 World Cup in Venezuela, where it didn’t qualify for the medal round. Japan won the championship and is the favourite this year.

“In women’s baseball, the players might not hit as many home runs as the men. But they sure hit just as many doubles or singles,” said Clarke. “But look for a lot of stealing because there’s some fine running.”

The other teams involved in the championship are the Netherlands, United States, Venezuela, Cuba and Australia.

Teams will arrive in Edmonton in early August, with Canada taking on Australia in exhibition play.

Twenty-two of the 32 World Cup games will be played at Telus Field, which will host three games a day.

Each team will play one game at John Fry Park.

The final is scheduled for Aug. 19 at Telus Field.

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