

From Tai Chi Entertainment Ball to Rouliball: Conceptual Changes and Cultural Interpretation of Rouliball

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The paper analyzes the cultural forces and conceptual changes of rouliball through literature review, expert interview and qualitative analysis in order to reveal the significance of culture in the development of rouliball. Rouliball was developed in 1991 and was named "TaiChi entertainment ball". It was officially introduced to the society and named "Tai Chi rouliball" in 1992. It was renamed rouliball in 2004 and classified into competitive rouliball and routine rouliball. It was also called professional rouliball and artistic rouliball. It could be seen that the conceptual changes of rouliball reflected the construction of the Chinese ethnic culture, the combination of the western and eastern culture, the harmony between the western and eastern culture.

Keywords: national traditional sports; TaiChi; rouliball; conceptual change; sports culture; cultural construction

A concept is a "form of thinking that reflects the unique properties of an object"[1] and is the starting point for logical inferences and a prerequisite for theoretical research in every science. After 30 years of popularization and promotion since its invention in 1991, the sport of softball has initially formed a complete sport system and become a sport that combines fitness, performance and competition. However, there is still a lack of theoretical research on the conceptual changes of softball and related cultural interpretations. Accordingly, it is an important proposition in the current academic field of softball to sort out the history of the conceptual changes of the sport and to explore the cultural causes behind the conceptual changes of softball.

1.1 The name of the sport of softball in the construction of national culture

1.1 The development of the sport of softball and the conceptualization of the sport

In 1991-1992, Bai Rong, a teacher at Jinzhong Health School in Shanxi Province, was awarded the new patent "Taiji Recreational Ball" (Patent No. 91225647.8) and the national invention patent "Taiji Recreational Racket" (Patent No. 91225647.8). "In 1993, a softball project creation team consisting of Bai Rong, Li Health, Zhang Lu, Xue Xiaoyuan, Li Xiaobin and Yin Huaizhong submitted the project to the Chinese National Federation of Trade Unions in Beijing. In 1993, a team consisting of Bai Rong, Li Health, Zhang Lu, Xue Xiaoyuan, Li Xiaobin and Yin Huaizhong submitted the name "Taiji Fitness Recreation Ball" to the All-China Federation of Trade Unions in Beijing, but when the evaluation team suggested changing the name to a shorter version, Bai Rong and Li Xiaobin decided to change it to "Taiji Softball". At that time, although there was no synchronized definition of the concept of "Taiji Softball", the name was rich in national culture and refreshing, and because of the unique form of sports expression of arcing and catching and throwing the ball, people had a novel and interesting feeling about it, which inspired people to experience, understand and participate. In 1994, the Softball Project was submitted to the National Sports Commission as a new sport to make up for the lack of resources available for school sports and was approved. In the same year, the project was recommended by the Public Physical Education Group of the National Steering Committee for Physical Education in Colleges and Universities and the National Steering Group for Physical Education Reform in Primary and Secondary Schools to be promoted in colleges, universities and primary and secondary schools, and it was pointed out in the evaluation letter that "Taiji Softball is a new sport with certain national characteristics, which is different from the traditional striking method and is characterized by cushioning and catching. " [2] This expression is the early prototype of the concept of softball, representing the original intention of the inventor and the creation team

to create the softball sport, carrying the thinking and expression of the inventor, Mr. Bai Rong, and the creation team to incorporate the concept of traditional national culture into the softball sport, and to integrate the characteristics of traditional national culture into the technology of the softball sport.

As a cultural carrier, the creation of the sport of softball is itself an expression of the construction of the excellent traditional culture of the nation. Li Liyan, then director of the National Sports Commission's Institute of Scientific Research, also gave high praise to Taiji. He pointed out: "The introduction of Taiji Softball is a major event in the history of national sports in China. This sport has enabled traditional culture and modernisation to work together, and Tai Chi activities to be ballistic. The Taiji ideas of "Lao Tzu" and "Zhou Yi", which are mainly expressed in the ideas of positive, one and opposite, are well integrated with modern ball games, as well as the "Art of War" of Sun Tzu. Sun Tzu's "Art of War" ideas and strategies of 'luring the enemy deep' and 'thorough digestion' have been successfully applied to Taiji softball competition, which is a good example of how we can discover and organize the ancient culture." [2] This highly complimentary approval reflects the recognition of the relevant leaders for the culture of the sport of softball, and it also concisely and accurately illustrates the cultural wisdom of the project by the softball project creation team. Softball is a new sport invented by the Chinese people, originated from the only Chinese culture in the world with a history of 5,000 years of civilization, and grew up in the new era of national reform and opening up. In this way, the traditional Chinese philosophical thinking, the excellent traditional texts and the theory of Taiji culture are the cultural sources for the construction of the sport of softball, the external manifestation and the internal embodiment of the sport of softball, "one breath", "one body" and "one body". The overall unity, "draw back and build up momentum", "lend force to fight", "do the opposite", "turn reality into reality with emptiness" The technical concepts, strategic ideas and cultural roots of the sport include "using softness to turn force into strength, overcoming rigidity with softness" and "following the trend".

1.2 Development of the sport of softball and development of its connotation

In 1994, the sport of softball had four conditions: the patent for the invention of the equipment, the establishment of the project name, the full recognition of the relevant departments of the National Sports Commission, and the establishment of the concept. In the same year, the "First National Taiji Softball Training Course" was successfully held in Taiyuan, Shanxi Province, and the "First National Staff Taiji Softball Project Exhibition Tournament" was successfully launched in Xiaogan, Hubei Province. In 1995, the "Second National Taiji Softball Training Course" was successfully held in Emeishan, Sichuan Province, and the "National Taiji Softball Training Course and Teaching Open Competition" was successfully held in Chengdu. In 1996, Wuhan City, Hubei Province successfully held the "3rd National Workers' Games Tai Chi Softball Referee Training Course" and Anshan City, Liaoning Province successfully held the "3rd National Workers' Games Tai Chi Softball Referee and Athletes Training Course". Along with the success of these national training courses and related exchange events, a variety of softball training and exchange events at the provincial and county levels have been held in many places. In 1996, the sport of softball was selected for the 3rd National Workers' Games, where 281 softball players from 19 provinces and municipalities participated in a fierce competition. The success of the tournament laid a solid foundation for the development of the sport of softball and built up momentum for its continued development.

In the following years, the "routines", a prototype of the sport of softball, were widely disseminated along with the promotion of the sport of softball. In particular, in the national training courses for softball coaches and referees from 2002 to 2004, in addition to the main elements of the net competition, the "rules of the old sports association" also appeared in the training courses, and became more and more firmly established in the main field of competition, and has now been

promoted to the third set [3]. At the same time, the Taiji Softball Promotion Group of the Chinese Senior Citizens' Association published and distributed "Taiji Softball Teaching and Learning" (2002), which explains the concept of softball as follows: "Taiji Softball is a sport in which the player holds a specially designed racket, The racket is composed of a handle and a frame with a cushioned, soft rubber surface with wind holes, and the ball is thrown around by means of an arcing guide." [4] This is also the concept of "Taiji Softball" defined by the team of Bai Rong, Yu Xinlu, Liu Jiaji, Song Yanji and Guo Naiying in written form, which meets the practical needs of the development of softball teaching, games and competition, and is the starting point for the logical deduction of softball culture and a prerequisite for theoretical research. Based on the traditional culture of the Chinese people, the Softball Promotion Group of the Chinese Senior Citizens' Association (CSCA) takes the concept of ball sports as the genus of the sport, and considers holding a soft rubber racket with a cushioning effect and a wind hole to throw and catch the ball in an arc as a kind of difference, taking two people throwing against each other, a single person practicing alone, several people passing to each other or competing across the net as the expression form, and taking fitness, recreation, performance and competition as the sports effects. It is also a concept of the sport of softball.

2 Softball is the name of a sport where East meets West

2.1 The naming of the sport of softball and the differentiation of the sport's form

In 2001, the China Senior Sports Association (CSSA) took the lead in finalising and issuing the first edition of the "Taiji Softball Competition Rules for the Middle-aged and Senior Citizens", which was divided into two sections: the competition rules for the middle-aged and senior citizens' Taiji Softball performance and the competition rules for the Taiji Softball competition, separating the softball routines and the softball netting events. The textbook "Teaching and Learning Taiji Softball", for the first time, contains a chapter on Taiji Softball Fitness Routines (the first set), a systematic introduction to the specifications and requirements of the technical movements of the performance routines, and a detailed explanation of the competition rules for the middle-aged and elderly Taiji Softball performance events and the competition rules for the Taiji Softball competition events. In 2004, the Social Sports Guidance Centre of the State General Administration of Sport (SGASG) renamed Taiji Softball as Softball, and the subordinate concept included Softball routines and Softball competition. Subsequently, the China Senior Sports Association (CSSA) responded to the name correction of softball and promulgated the "Rules for Middle-aged and Senior Softball Competitions" (老老体字 [2005] No. 05) on May 1, 2005, which officially launched the concept of softball. As a result, the Taiji Softball Promotion Group of the Chinese Senior Sports Association was renamed the Softball Promotion Group of the Chinese Senior Sports Association, and the content of the first-level catalogue was renamed the Rules of Competition and the Rules and Scoring Criteria for the Performance of Sets. This marked the establishment of the upper concept of softball, and the establishment of the lower concept of softball routines and the proper name of softball competition. In March 2012, in order to meet the needs of universal participation, the Social Sports Guidance Center of the State General Administration of Sport finalized and issued the "Softball Competition Rules and Judging Law" (trial version), and the sport of softball has officially entered the age-group style competition rules for routines and competitive events. The sport of softball has also entered the age-group style set rules and competition rules, and the development of set drills and net competitions has entered the fast track.

The issue of the name and concept of the sport of softball became an important topic of discussion and writing by scholars and experts. Bai Rong reiterated his adherence to the name of Taiji Softball and to the traditional Chinese Taiji and Yin-Yang theories of Taiji, while at the same time using the term "integration with modern ball sports" and "Taiji-ized ball sports" to express his absorption of

the essence of modern ball sports. The absorption of the essence of humanistic thought in modern ball games is expressed by the term "taiji-ized ball games"[5]. Wang Hong[6] argued that the name of the sport should follow the proper name of softball, the connotation of the concept should follow the concept of Banyan, the technical characteristics of the sport should show the individual characteristics of "softness, roundness, retreat and integrity", and the form of the sport should emphasize the two-dimensional direction of set form and competitive form. Li Enjing[7] takes the arcing process as the essential characteristic of softball, describing the movement of the ball in a cushioned retreating arc or circle on the racket, and expresses the importance of the cultural characteristics of the national sports. Tong Baomin [8] insists on the name of Taiji Softball, emphasizing that the sport should be based on the theoretical foundation of Taiji principles, focusing on the technical characteristics of welcoming, nurturing, leading and throwing, highlighting the two-dimensional movement form of set practice and confrontation across the net. Ltd.[9] (hereinafter referred to as "Auberon") adheres to the principle of Taiji culture as the soul of the sport, emphasizes the characteristics of the circular movement of the racket and the ball, and agrees with the distinction between the set and competitive forms of the sport. Liu Zhanfeng[10] adheres to the essence of excellent national culture and follows the principle of taiji yin and yang, with "softness, roundness, retreat, integrity" and "arc leading" as the characteristics of the sport, rich in traditional cultural concepts such as softness overcoming rigidity, retreat as progress, peace and perfection of Confucianism. The sport of softball is characterized by the traditional cultural concepts of "softness overcoming strength", "retreat and advancement" and "peace and perfection". These cultural concepts, based on debate, identification and dissemination, have profoundly influenced the development and dissemination of softball along with the development and advancement of the sport.

2.2 The Formation of Softball and the Integration of Western Culture

With the support of relevant policies and institutions, the sport of softball has grown to become one of the most popular sports among the general public. The sport is easy to learn, fun to play, and healthy to play, and academic research on the sport has been fruitful. Tong Baomin has created the "Thirty-Six Styles of Taiji Softball Routine" (2007), "Twenty-Four Styles of Taiji Softball Routine" (2008), "Forty-Eight Styles of Taiji Softball Routine" (2009) and "Forty-Eight Styles of Taiji Softball Routine" (2009). "(2009) and "Sixteen Styles of Taiji Softball Routine" (2011)[11]. Based on the connotation of "Taiji" and the characteristics of "soft arc", scholars, represented by Yang Jianying, argued the relationship between the sport of softball and Taiji ideology from various aspects, such as the technical essence, cultural connotation and philosophical concept, and analyzed the technical connotation and cultural roots of the sport of softball [12], which promoted the development of Taiji style sports. The development of the sport of softball has led to the rapid development of softball-related industries, and a number of softball sports development companies have been established and entered a period of prosperity. The company has become an important partner in the promotion of the scientific and healthy development of the sport of softball in cooperation with the National Sports Guidance Centre. The company became an important partner of the National Sports Guidance Centre to promote the scientific and healthy development of softball, and thus, the creation of the prescribed routines has entered the path of standardisation and systematisation. (2015), "Four Seasons Pastoral" (2016) and a number of other excellent routines prescribed by the Social Sports Centre of the State General Administration of Sport have made their debut one after another, leading the standard development of the national softball routines. At the same time, these softball routines, which are rich in national culture, have been presented at the "National Softball Training Course", "China Softball Open" and "National Softball Competition" organized by the Social Sports Guidance Center of the State General Administration of Sport. "It has played an important role in demonstrating the direction of the development of softball routines in such arenas as the "National

Softball Caravan for the People". This is the first time that softball has been transformed from a special auxiliary exercise to a softball routine, marking the formation of the sport of softball.

Table 1 Statistics on the conceptual evolution of the sport of softball

Year	Author	Name (in PinYin)	Concept	Source of results
2009	Bai Rong	TaiJiRouLiQiu	It is a product of the combination of traditional Chinese Taiji and modern ball sports, and is a crystallization of the Chinese Taiji theory of Yin and Yang.	TaiJiRouLiQiu [2]
2010	Wang Hong	RouLiQiuYunDong	It is based on the theoretical principles of Taiji, with the technical characteristics of softness, roundness, retreat and integrity, and the main form of exercise and confrontation across the net.	Introduction and Improvement of RouLiQiu [6]
2012	Li Enjing	RouLiQiuYunDong	It is a national sport in which the practitioner holds a racket and the main technical feature is the cushioning and retreating arc or circle movement of the ball on the racket.	An Exploration of the Basic Concepts of TaiJiRouLiQiuYunDong [7]
2013	Tong Baomin	TaiJiRouLiQiu	It is a new sport with national characteristics and emphasis on both internal and external training, based on the theoretical basis of Taiji principles, with the technical characteristics of welcoming, napping, leading and throwing, and the main form of exercise and confrontation across the net.	TaiJiRouLiQiuYunDong [8]
2013	Zheng Zhiwei	RouLiQiu	Also known as Taiji Softball, it is a sport with Taiji culture as the soul of the sport, the circular motion of the racket and the ball as the basis of physics, and the main form of exercise and confrontation across the net as the main sport.	Teaching and Learning the Common Technical Movements of RouLiQiu Sets [9]
2015	Liu Zhifeng	RouLiQiuYunDong	It is based on the theoretical principles of Yin and Yang of Tai Chi culture, with the technical characteristics of "softness, roundness, retreat, integrity" and "arc leading", and the main form of sport performance and inter-net competition, reflecting the Confucian thought of overcoming rigidity with softness, retreat as advancement, peace and perfection.	A Practical Course on RouLiQiu [10]

Along with the continuous improvement and development of the sport of softball, external communication and promotion are also becoming more and more effective. In terms of promotion, Ms. Zou Li, the founder of the Japan Taiji Softball Federation, and Mr. Sui Xiaofei, the pioneer of European Taiji Softball promotion, have established a firm foothold in Japan and Germany to spread the culture of softball, and teachers such as Bai Rong, Wang Xuejun, Tong Baomin, Duan Quanwei and Liu Shuhui have become the main force in external training and promotion. In terms of tournament promotion, the Japan Taiji Softball Federation held its first national tournament in Osaka in September 2006, and the Taiji White Dragon Federation held two European Taiji Softball Championships in Germany and Austria in October 2006 and September 2007 respectively[6], which started the development of softball in western countries. In terms of cultural exchange, on 22 May 2006, in the Calamus River Park in Beijing, the then Premier Wen Jiabao introduced the game to German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who was on an official visit to China, making this typical "Chinese sport" play a role in promoting political and economic exchanges between the two countries, and also providing a good opportunity for softball to The International Invitational Tournament was successfully held in Beijing in May 2006, and the Cross-Straits and Hong Kong-Macau Invitational Tournament was held in Macau in June 2007. In terms of the content of the routines, Chinese prescribed routines dubbed in English, Russian and Japanese have been released and are widely popular. In terms of the style of the routines, western softball circles such as Japan, Germany, France, Italy and the Netherlands have blended elements of their traditional sports and music into their own routines, giving the sport an exotic flavour. The aesthetics of softball routines are also becoming more and more integrated into the aesthetic elements of Western sports, with emphasis

on artistic and expressive external expressions, contemporary connotations and rhythmic dynamics, and are increasingly characterized by the beauty of free gymnastics, the artistry of martial arts routines and the rhythm of artistic gymnastics [13].

3 Softball is renamed as a combination of Chinese and Western cultures

3.1 The renaming of the sport of softball and the follow-up of the sport's culture

After 12 years of popularization, promotion and development, the sport of softball has become a quasi-sport with multiple effects, and has a mass base to enter the family of mass events in the National Games. In 2016, in order to adapt to and promote the further development of the sport of softball, the Social Sports Guidance Centre of the State General Administration of Sport finalised and issued the newly revised "Softball Competition Rules", renamed the 2012 version of the "Softball Competition Rules and Referee Law" to "Softball Competition Rules", renamed the softball routine to "Fancy Softball", and renamed the softball competition to "Net Softball". The name of the game has been changed to "Net Softball". The new rules of softball were renamed to Fancy Softball, and the new rules of softball were renamed to Net Softball. The topics of standardising the technical movements of fancy softball in the new era and exploring the culture of softball in the post-Tianjin National Games era became new topics of discussion among softball enthusiasts, and fancy softball became a new item of interest. Yuan Liu Shuyi, referring to the rules of artistic gymnastics, figure skating and synchronized swimming, defines softball as "a sport in which one or more players, accompanied by music, hold a soft racket and use soft circles and retreats to form various types of movements of different levels of difficulty, and form beautiful and smooth combinations and sets with circles as the core, without pauses or folds". The "round" is the core of the game, without stopping and folding points, and forming beautiful and smooth combinations and sets" [14]. Some scholars have also taken the final stage of the 2017 Tianjin National Games as a vehicle for the mass competition event, and have suggested that "the combination of difficulty and the innovation of various finishing methods" and "different technical styles have their own strengths in terms of artistry and expression". The new technical features of the fancy sport are presented, and the further integration of the physical and instrumental techniques of fancy softball, the learning from each other and the complementing of each other's strengths to enhance the artistry and expressiveness of the work, are presented, revealing the new orientation of the sport of fancy softball to meet the appreciation and perception of the people in the new era, while incorporating the skills of performance sports in an inclusive manner.

From the perspective of national culture, according to the post-renaming China Knowledge Network, scholarship on the subject of taiji softball still dominates. Although there are fewer and fewer scholarly insights into the cultural study of the name Taiji Softball, there are also those that defend the national cultural identity of the sport. For example, Xu Fujing[15] mentioned that "the question of whether softball should be classified as Taiji is a matter of promotion and popularisation in the development of softball, and should not be a matter of belonging to it". The spirit of Taiji" should lead the scientific development of softball through its "circular thinking, holistic concept, yin and yang changes" and other Taiji ideas. In terms of cultural practice, Tong Baomin is still the backbone of the community's adherence to the Taiji style of "Fancy Softball". He has created and perfected the nine major rules of Taiji Softball (8, 16, 24, 6, 42, 48, 56, 88, 108), which are used in his three-dan, nine-dan assessment system. At present, the three-dan (junior, middle and senior) nine-dan (one colour per dan: white, red, orange, yellow, green, green, blue, purple and black) dan assessment has been successfully conducted for seven sessions (founded in 2017). At the level of general universities, Duan Quanwei[16] of Beijing University of Physical Education and Sport created a 32-hour softball routine for higher education institutions and taught the syllabus, teaching process, and lesson plans at the "2016 Softball Workshop on Traditional Ethnic Sports" held from 12-16 November 2016. This

has laid a solid foundation for the promotion, teaching and standardisation of softball, which is rich in traditional Taiji culture, in general universities, and has also set a timely example for the teaching of softball in general universities to achieve the objectives of shaping the human spirit, standardising technical movements, learning the rules of competition and referee law in a limited class time.

3.2 The establishment of the concept of softball and the integration of Chinese and Western cultures

On 1 July 2017, the General Administration of Sports of China issued the "Order Book of Softball Final of the 13th Games of the People's Republic of China", which clearly defines the concept of softball as "a sport based on the theoretical foundation of Tai Chi principles, combined with modern sports and fitness concepts, featuring the techniques of welcoming, leading, throwing and curved catching and sending. It is a new sport with distinctive national characteristics. The new concept of softball, the standardization of the technical system and the scientificization of the referee's rules have become new themes for the enrichment of the concept and culture of softball, with promising results. In the field of fancy softball, Guan Yunshen [16] divided the technical system of fancy softball into action elements and practice elements based on the characteristics of fancy styles, and defined the specific contents of action elements and practice elements respectively. In addition, a new concept of forward grip and reverse grip has been developed, and four basic movements have been distinguished: swinging, twisting, swinging and throwing, and a classification of difficult movements based on the relationship between the ball and the racket has been proposed. The concept of the fusion of Chinese and Western cultures has led to new ideas to solve the problem of the technical system of the sport of softball, which still needs further improvement [17]. In the "2019 National Senior Softball (Competitive) Exchange Event", Wang Ying explored the introduction of an intelligent assisted referee system and proposed that "the intelligent assisted referee system has the ability to It is proposed that "the intelligent assisted referee system has the effect of 'promoting the athletes to play at a higher level, making the competition more fair and just, improving the spectacle value of the competition, and helping to clean up the environment of competitive softball in China'" [18], which provides an opportunity to explore the fair and just competition of softball.

The application of the concept of technological assistance is beginning to be incorporated into softball. The concept of technological assistance has been integrated into the sport of softball, and the culture of equal participation, fair competition and fair arbitration of modern ball games has been recognized and pursued by softball fans, which further promotes the scientific and standardized development of the sport of softball.

The Tai Chi White Dragon Federation, the Japanese Tai Chi Softball Federation, the Russian Regional Softball Association, the Virtuo Club and the St. Petersburg Tai Chi White Dragon Federation are some of the professional associations that have been supporting the development of softball in foreign countries. The European Tai Chi Softball Open, the Osaka International Tai Chi Softball Tournament in Japan, and the Virtuo Club Cup Softball Championship in Russia are important vehicles for the infusion of Western culture into the sport of softball, promoting the development of the sport abroad [19] and the continuous absorption of Western civilization into softball. In China, the biennial Beijing International Softball Exchange Conference has been held for two years, and the biennial Jin China International Softball Competition in Jinzhong, Shanxi, has been successfully held for four years (see Table 2). The tournaments have also carried the mission of international softball fans to exchange, compete, learn and appreciate each other, and have strengthened the foundation of international friendship between Chinese and foreign softball fans. As a new sports identity of Chinese traditional culture, the sport of softball, which carries the connotation of Chinese traditional sports culture and incorporates the cultural concepts of western volleyball and gymnastics [20-21], also represents the fashion of combining Chinese and western sports culture, which is in line with the trend of global cultural health, integration and dissemination, as well as the substantial requirement

of Chinese cultural confidence to "go out" [22]. It is also in line with the trend of global cultural integration and communication, as well as the requirement of Chinese cultural confidence to "go global" [22]. In terms of the performance of the domestic international softball exchange conference, there are more and more new faces from Europe and the United States, and the level of competition in the net event is getting higher and higher, and the fancy event even shows "single-leg support over 720 degrees of rotation", "back-legged draping beat around the circle flip". The "Hanging Pat Horizontal Rotation Round Toss" and other difficult moves in category C. In terms of the music for the optional routines, it is the first time that European and American folk music is used, which combines the beauty and rhythm of Western forms, the sense of music and the freedom of rotation into the sport of softball, combining the modern charm of the confident culture of softball. It is also a timely indication that the sport of softball is increasingly meeting the needs of a broader group of people to improve their physical and mental health, and that the cultural basis for the survival of the sport of softball is increasingly showing signs of the fusion of Chinese and Western civilizations [23-25].

Name of Organization	Year of foundation	Location	Format	Number of sessions held
International Tai Chi Softball Exchange Conference, Osaka, Japan	2007	Osaka, Japan	Once every two years	7
European Tai Chi Softball Open	2008	European Cities	Once every two years	4
Jinzhong International Softball Tournament	2012	Jinzhong, Shanxi	Once every two years	4
Russia Virtuoz Club Cup Softball Championships	2013	Russia	Once a year	7
Beijing International Softball Exchange Conference	2017	Beijing	Once every two years	2

4 Conclusion

"He who seeks the growth of a tree must strengthen its foundation; he who wishes to flow far must dredge its source." The study of the conceptual changes of the sport of softball based on documentary and expert interviews reveals the significance of culture in the survival and development of the sport of softball. Looking ahead, the sport of softball will still face the prospect of another name change. Whether it is the name of the sport, the follow-up of the conceptual culture, or the reconstruction of the conceptual culture, it will be the follow-up of the softening, or the reconstruction of the conceptual culture, which will be a blessing for the sport of softball to serve the people better. The sport of softball will also have a brighter and more prosperous future as it serves a wider audience and is built on a richer cultural ground.

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