

## Omar Ajete Iglesias

Category: Sports Glories

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~~Name: Omar Ajete Iglesias.~~

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Date of Birth: January 31, 1965, San Juan y Martínez, Pinar del Río, Cuba.

Title: Bachellor in Physical Culture and Sports.

Titles obtained: Olympic Champion, Barcelona 1992 and Atlanta 1996; World Champion, Edmonton 1990, Nicaragua 1994 and Italy 1998.

Omar Ajete. He is a former Cuban baseball player who played pitcher in National Baseball Series with the teams of Vegueros and Pinar del Río. A glory of the Cuban sport, he was a member of the national team at several international events.

### Biographical Synthesis

Born on January 31, 1965 in San Juan y Martínez, Pinar del Río, located in the western region of Cuba. When he was an active player, he was 1.75 meters tall and weighed 93 kilograms. He was a left-handed pitcher.

He made his debut at the age of 20 in the National Baseball Series, and the following year he dominated the department of won and lost games. He is a member of the teams of Pinar del Rio in the Selective Series and of the Cuban team to the Olympic Games of Barcelona and Atlanta.

### Sports career

#### In the National Series

He made his debut in 1985 with the Vegueros team, and the following year he was the leader in the average of won and lost games.

Playing first for Vegueros and then for Pinar del Río, he won the national title in 1985, 1987, 1988, 1997 and 1998.

He participated in 16 seasons in the Cuban ball, where he threw in 449 games, of which 306 started, 137 complete, 143 relieved, achieved 179 victories with 96 defeats, 29 saved games and 31 grout.

He threw in 2320 in innigs, allowing 977 runs, 849 of them clean for an average of 3.29 effectiveness, made 1777 punches, awarded 681 bases by balls.

He confronted 8834 batters, connected 2252 hits, among them 167 home runs, the opposing batters batted him for 255 average.

#### In the Selective Series

In this event, he achieved the leadership of clean races and grout in 1993, the leadership of won games in 1990, 1991 and 1994.

In 1990, he is leader in pitches and punching, both governing in 1991.

#### At international events

Debuts in 1987 at the Pan American Games held in Indianapolis, United States, closing the final game against the U.S. team, to win the title

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He participated in two Olympic Games, Barcelona in 1992 and Atlanta in 1996, where he won the title.

He participated in the 1990 Edmonton World Amateur Baseball Championships, Nicaragua 1994, Italy 1998, and the 1987

Intercontinental Cups in Havana, Barcelona 1991, Italy 1993 and Havana 1995, events where he became champion.

He also won the medal at the Pan American Games in Havana in 1991 and Mar del Plata in 1995, as well as at the Central American and Caribbean Games in Mexico in 1990 and Ponce in 1993.

He was also present at the Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia in 2000, where he won the silver medal.

### Retirement and working life

The official farewell to active sport took place on November 30, 2004, at the Capitan San Luis Stadium. Escorted by stars of great lineage such as Juan Castro, Omar Linares, Rogelio García and Luis Giraldo Casanova, who together with him made history in the same teams Pinar del Río, Vegueros or Cuba. About that I say: 'The four are true glories and brothers, not only of team, because together we won and lost games in and out of the field. The proof of how much we love each other is that when they were told about my retirement and that their presence was needed for the ceremony, they answered without prior agreement: "for whom better?"

To be escorted by great luminaries of revolutionary baseball in his official farewell was for Ajete an excellent epilogue for a race of 16 national series, in which he won 179 and lost 96.

He was a key player in the Cuban victory in Barcelona and in the U.S. four years later.

Omar now coaches pitchers in his home territory. He says to his students: "Everyone knows that in any baseball game, the serpentine's job is 70 percent of the victory. How a pitcher works depends on the outcome of the team, so I teach my students that concentration, plus technique and courage are all about the mound.

I still have in me the year 1986 when I did not make the team of the province for low performance. That drove me to be better and I even made Cuba for three Olympics: Barcelona, Atlanta and Sydney.