

## Vincentian Consul receives Award for Baseball

14 October 2016

**Belfast, NORTHERN IRELAND:** Venezuelan Jose Santos on behalf of Ulster Buccaneers Baseball and Belfast Northstars Baseball presented an award plate to Dr Christopher Stange for his distinguished service to baseball through the Consulate for St. Vincent and the Grenadines to Northern Ireland.

This award was to commemorate the efforts to club and sport in delivering the first purpose built baseball diamond in Northern Ireland through Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council.



L-R: Jose Santos – Head Coach, Ulster Buccaneers Baseball and Dr Christopher Stange – Hon. Consul, St. Vincent and the Grenadines to Northern Ireland

The Belfast Northstars and Ulster Buccaneers both compete in the B Division - North of the Irish Baseball league.

Dr Stange commented: “I am honoured to receive such a prestigious award on behalf of the Government of St Vincent and the Grenadines. This sports diplomacy initiative on the island of Ireland has not only lead to the first high quality baseball facility for future generations to grow the sport and league but in its first season both Northern Ireland teams went on to win the B league (Northstars) and place second (Buccaneers) overall. Baseball brings all communities together, including the large Diaspora in Northern Ireland from North America, Caribbean, Latin and South America, and the Pacific, where baseball is either the national or main sport.”

The awards evening was held at Cutter’s wharf and included players, staff, family and friends of baseball, softball and American football. Peter Kavanagh on behalf of Baseball Ireland provided closing comments followed by a barbeque banquet. **ENDS**