

DECEMBER 2024
VOLUME 16 EDITION 1

STEVE BOUTANG—EDITOR

Hey Blue! Online

HOLIDAY NEWSLETTER

Virtual BCBUA AGM held to end 2024

The BCBUA Annual General Meeting was held virtually at the end of November. President Sean Sullivan presided over the nearly 60 people who logged on to participate. It was a welcome site to see so many participants to a meeting that normally draws under 40 attendees. Updates were provided by Committee Heads and Table Officers, the highlights of which can be found on the following pages. Of note, the association still finds itself in a strong financial position after doing better than break-even again for 2024. This was in large part due to the record number of registrations for the BCBUA at just under 1800 members.

Elections were held for the Vice President and Director positions for Area 7 - Okanagan.

Kenny Colosie was elected as Vice President. This will be his second term.

Darcy Rysz was elected Area Rep for the Okanagan. Rysz takes over mid term from the retiring Kevin Burk and this area will be up for regular election again in fall of 2025.

There were no special resolutions that changed anything materially in the association. Dues for 2025 remain the same. The meeting took just under 2 hours to complete.

BCBUA BOARD—2025

President—Sean Sullivan
Vice President—Kenny Colosie
Secretary—Samantha Chapman
Treasurer—Jim Van Meer
Past President—Scott Eckardt
Area 1 Vancouver Island South
Jakob Goba
Area 2 Vancouver Island North
Brad Jones
Area 3 Lower Mainland East
Gary Webber
Area 4 Lower Mainland West
Thomas Brock
Area 5 Lower Mainland South
Graeme McMurray
Area 6 Thompson
Margaret Jean Willis
Area 7 Okanagan
Darcy Rysz
Area 8 Kootenays
Bill MacMillan
Area 9 Northern BC
Kyle Anderson



**BC BASEBALL
UMPIRES
ASSOCIATION**

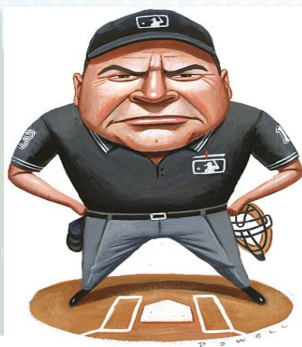
**All Photos in HeyBlue!
Online provided by
John Pentland**



From the Oval Office -President's Report

By Sean Sullivan

The 2024 season has come to an end and the BCBUA has had a banner year. Our future is increasingly getting brighter due to the work of you, our members. The BCBUA executive, Baseball BC, and our partner Associations have continued to find ways to enhance our partnerships. This was our first year under Safe Sport policies, mandatory criminal record checks and an enhanced view on discipline by our partner associations. We have gained significant headway and your BCBUA board of directors are committed to continue the great work.



Our umpires once again knocked it out of the park at Provincial, Western and National events. We had many gold medal and semi-final plate assignments. We also had tremendous positive feedback from the national supervisors, who are envious of what we have built.

Lastly, I would like to thank the BCBUA Board and the many volunteers that chipped in to deliver our programming. Without your support we would not be the best umpiring program in Canada! We are committed to not resting on our laurels and want to push forward to be leaders for other Provinces to follow.

Sincerely, Sean Sullivan, President BCBUA

Sport Canada mandated that all Canadian sports must comply with new Safe Sport policies. The BCBUA rolled out its criminal record check screening policy, which had a few hiccups at the provincial level outside the BCBUA's control. The provincial system has been updated and we expect it to be much easier to comply with going forward. We were near 100% compliance and received kudos from our partners for our efforts. This has been a long-standing request by our partners to get this implemented. Ejections and Incidents with our umpires saw a slight decrease. We had 222 ejections in 2024, as compared to 240 in 2023. Our partner leagues were appreciative of our immediate intervention on issues such as

poor coach/player/fan behaviour and bench jockeying amongst teams. They fully support the BCBUA continuing to ensure these issues are dealt with prior to them getting out of control.

Your BCBUA Board advanced funding to strengthen our mentorship program. We sought out tournaments where we could maximize mentorships, we used National members at 11U and 13U games to assist young/mature umpires. Umpire Academy was a hit again. Watching young umpires improve leaps and bounds is great to see and ensures the BCBUA will continue to produce high quality umpires for years to come. Our partner associations continue to want to see more of this, and the BCBUA is committed to seeking opportunities, where they may not have existed in the past.



President Sean Sullivan gives a "Thumbs up" to the 2024 season!

Supervisor's Report

By Blaise Laveay

The 2024 season was perhaps the most successful year yet for our National Program. Ours is a program built on teamwork and competition, and the results really show on the field. From the new Umpires looking to enter the Program right thru to the most seasoned vets....everyone is supportive, working towards the same goals, and constantly pushing to get better.

This years Umpire Academy was a fantastic group that had started slow but ended up finishing strong. It wasn't the loudest group but the athleticism was on display early and once they got come confidence.....the product on the field really started to skyrocket. We ended up with 4 more Level 3 Umpires immediately out of the group and I expect they will all get there in the very near future.

Big congrats to the Academy grads and I look forward to seeing most of you in the National Program very soon!

Our National Clinic in Kamloops was once again a huge success. We are so fortunate to have tournaments such as the Best of the West to use for our programming as it provides us with excellent baseball to work and learn. We had top notch Supervisors from across the country as well as many of our own, this leads to a full week of development and growth that is unmatched in Canada. The Clinic ended with a whopping TEN elevations into the National Program!!



When the stage gets bigger, the BC Umpires get stronger. The goal for our Umpires at a National needs to be to learn and improve, with the performance goal being to leave with a higher recommendation than they came in with. This happened across the board and nothing makes me happier! The cherry on top is how we perform and dominate when it comes to assignments. At every tournament, the BC Umpires are at or near the very top of the crew and we were all over the field during the playoff games! Congrats to all the Umpires who represented BC and crushed the 2024 National Championships.

Having great Supervisors is truly what makes our Program so great, and a few of them got to show it on the National stage this year. Troy Carmont went to the Canada Cup and John Pentland to the 13U event. Both did a fantastic job! Shawn Bird also Supervised at the 16U Girls event as part of his successful training to join the ranks of Senior Course Conductors. Great work fellas!

I am very fortunate to have Joe Mallinson and Scott Eckardt on the Committee to run this program and couldn't do it without them! But a special shout out is needed for Bill MacMillan and John Pentland. We are having such great success in developing Umpires from Academy and right up into the National Program and I cannot stress how important these two are. The hours they have put in with the young crew we have is incredible. Billy Mac and JP (along with many other Sups) have built the fundamental base with these young Umpires to the point that once they tackle better baseball and work with all the tremendous Umpires in our Program, these Umpires grow at a level that's just not seen anywhere else.

Supervisor Report cont.

For the second year in a row, 3 of the 8 Umpires selected for the Showcase were from BC! Tyler Hoffman, Mark Penner, and Tyler Pentland all attended and had a fantastic experience.

Adding to the great news, both Hoffman and Pentland have been added to the Mentorship list for the International Pathway and have already started working on their programs to hopefully get on the international list.

Overall, I cannot say enough good things about the 2024 season. We are excelling both on and off the field as our members are constantly giving back to the game of baseball and umpiring in general, all across the province.

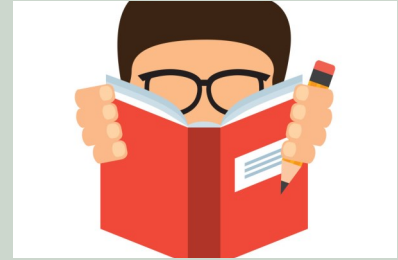
As I am also the Supervisor of Officials for Baseball BC, I am very excited about the relationships the BCBUA now has with its various partners. Of course there will always be hiccups, but the lines of communications are clearer than ever, and we have a great working arrangement with all of our partners (Baseball BC, PBL, BOW, BC Minor, etc). Leading the way on this is BCBUA President Sean Sullivan and VP Kenny Colosie and I think people would be shocked to see how much work those two put in. The three of us work very closely on several different topics and I look forward to continuing that work into 2025!

A Very Special Thank You to our committee: Tyler Hoffman; Tyler Pentland; Ethan McNamara; Phil Bourgeois; John Pentland; Daniel Law; and Nick Van Dyk for all your assistance in working with HQ Enterprises in making our online training go LIVE.

Our plan is to make some significant changes to our online clinics in 2025 to provide better flexibility and enhance the learning experience. We need to get better participation in completing and engaging in online training. There may be special considerations made for local associations to have both the theory and practical sessions together if there are adequate numbers and the cost of instructors is not prohibitive. Local Associations can contact their Area Rep at any time to request a date for their practical sessions.

We are working on Enhancements also for our Level 3 Umpires and those that aspire to become Level 3 Umpires

-Troy Carmont Education Chair



EDUCATION UPDATE!

Clinics for Level 1 and Level 2 were done in 2024 with a hybrid process that had students do the theory work through our online platform and then practical sessions through clinics that were arranged through local UIC's, Area Reps, and the Education Committee.

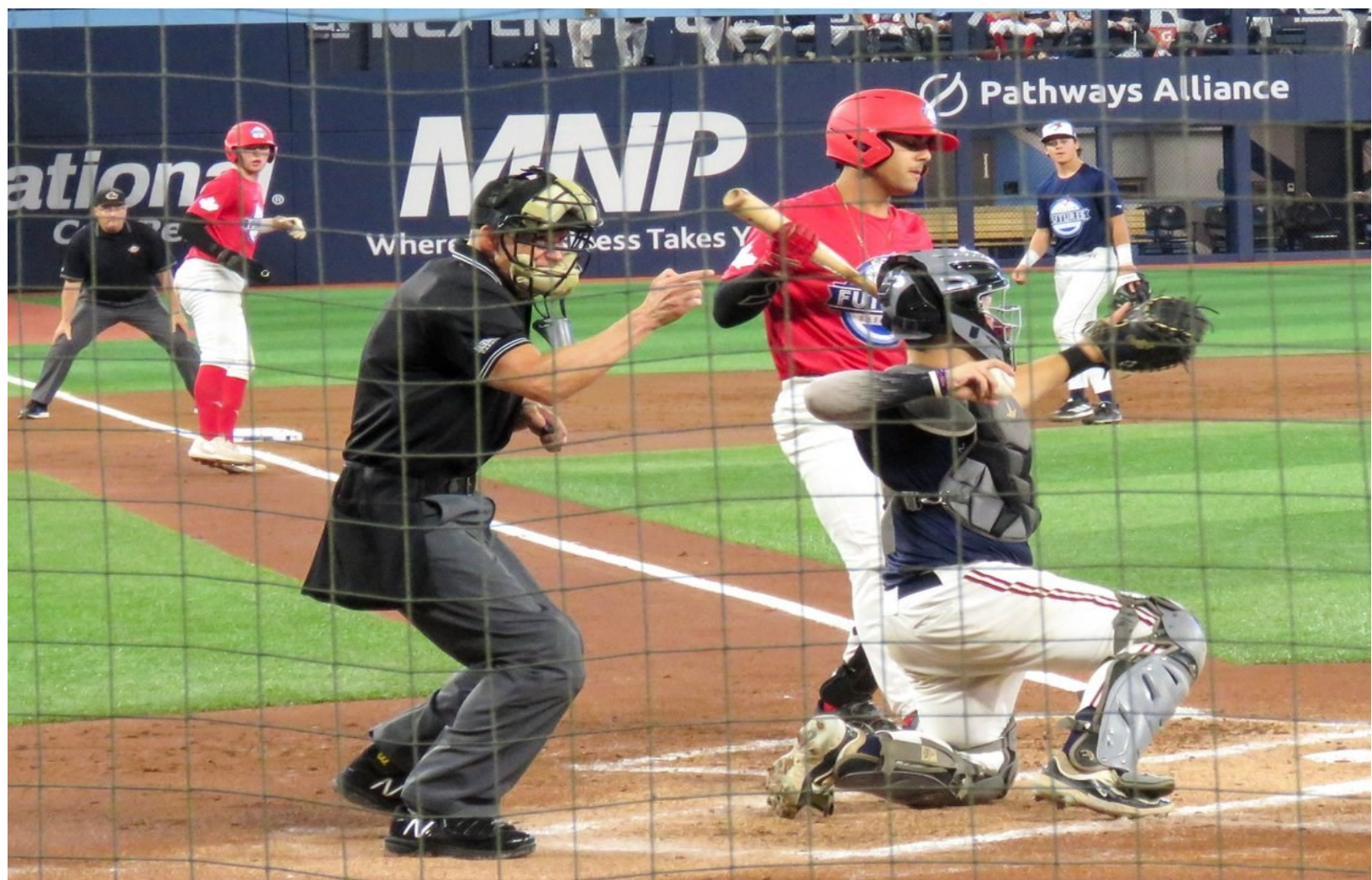
We conducted 8 separate Level 1 & 2 Evenings of Online Moderated Training. In Addition, we conducted 75 In Person Mechanics and Practical Sessions throughout the Province. Thanks to all of you who helped make these possible.



**Troy Carmont—
Education Chair**

BCBUA UMPIRES AT BLUE JAYS ACADEMY







Financial Report 2024 (The dollars and cents of it all)

The full and detailed financial report presented by Treasurer Jim Van Meer to the AGM is available for registered BCBUA members on our website.

The Coles notes version is as follows...

BCBUA Reported revenue of just over \$121,000

There was approximately \$100,000 of expenses paid as of year end September 30, plus \$19,000 of bills and outstanding expenses still remaining to be paid from 2024 (uncashed cheques etc). For a grand total of \$119,000 in expenses.

That leaves a grand total of approximately \$2000 to the good for 2024.

The bank balance of cash assets sits at \$118,277.



SECRETARY REPORT

Members 13 and under

776

Members aged 14-35

732

Members aged 36-50

104

Members older than 50

143

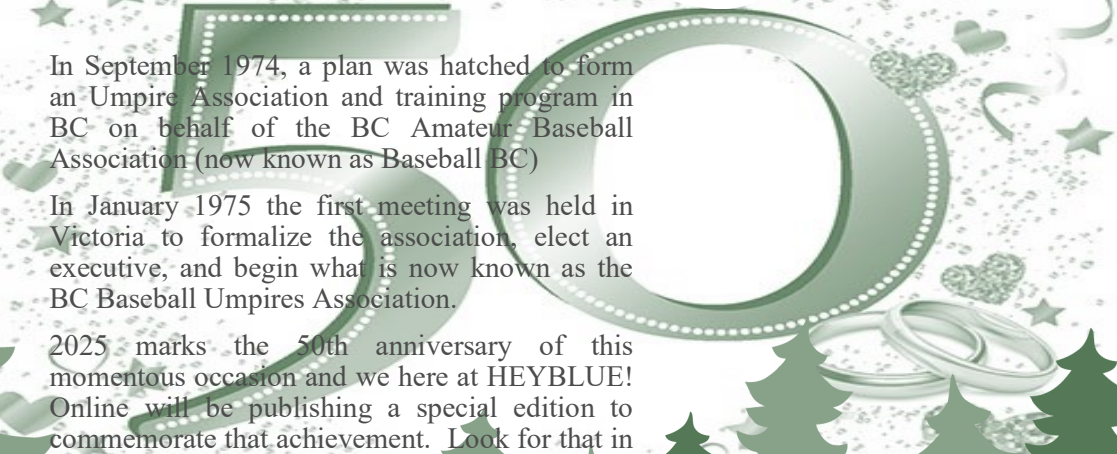
HAPPY 50th BIRTHDAY—BCBUA

In September 1974, a plan was hatched to form an Umpire Association and training program in BC on behalf of the BC Amateur Baseball Association (now known as Baseball BC)

In January 1975 the first meeting was held in Victoria to formalize the association, elect an executive, and begin what is now known as the BC Baseball Umpires Association.

2025 marks the 50th anniversary of this momentous occasion and we here at HEYBLUE! Online will be publishing a special edition to commemorate that achievement. Look for that in the new year!

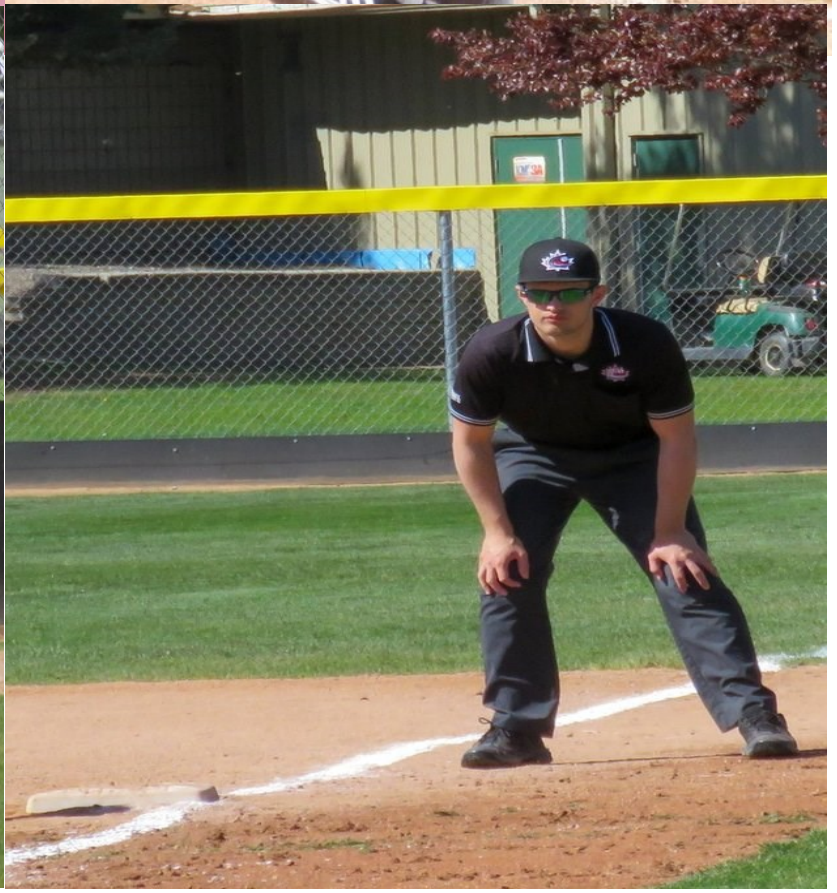
Steve Boutang—Editor



CHECK OUT OUR MEMBERS IN ACTION!!!









GEARHEADS....

FOR THOSE WHO CAN'T GET ENOUGH!

By Brad Jones



As the season comes to an end, the biggest question on my mind for 2025 is: how can I help, as a mentor, give the young and enthusiastic Level 1s and 2s the best training and feedback in their development as umpires?

While a mentor can help with their knowledge and experience, how can they deliver that knowledge and experience to a young umpire, such that the guidance helps them in their growth? One way to support young umpires is for mentors to think about how to say it, and how they can keep it simple to remember. But how can the mentor turn their words into the on-field umpire's action. Is there something a mentor can use to help drive home the basics. In a nutshell, what kind of educational tools and equipment can umpire mentors use to support and reinforce the skill and knowledge development of young umpires and continue to be a valuable resource to them? So, here are some ideas to think about for mentoring in 2025.

1. Wear a cap/shirt/jacket to signify that you are part of the game crew.

Mentors want to make sure that parents and coaches know their role on the field and that they are part of the game crew. As part of the game crew, the mentor has is assigned to the game and if necessary, the ability to remove players and coaches from the game just like the on-field umpires. This should be clear for all at the game.

One possibility to clearly identify the mentor is to have the local association purchase a caps/shirts/jackets for their mentors such that all parents, players and coaches know there is a mentor at the game and they are focused on supporting the on-field umpire crew.

2. Use your phone (or tablet).

Yep, more of you mentors out there are already doing this. Use the camera in your phone to take pictures and show young umpires what they are doing and use it as a baseline in giving feedback. Portable devices are also great for showing videos and tracking down rulebooks and manuals to reinforce fundamental skills. In practice, a mentor may want to set up a folder in their device's browser to quickly access the following:

a. The current BC Minor Baseball rule book. Make sure to know the following rules:

i. Rule 13: Manager, Coach, Player, and Parent – Code of Conduct

ii. Rule 17: Umpires

iii. Rule 19: Equipment

iv. Rule 21: Obligation of Scheduled Games

v. Rule 22: Administration of Games

vi. Rule 23: Line-ups and substitutions

vii. Rule 26: General Playing Rules

<https://www.bcminorbaseball.org/rulesbooks>

b. The current Baseball Canada rule book.

<https://umpire.baseball.ca/index.php?page 362>

c. The current Baseball Canada two-umpire position manual

<https://umpire.baseball.ca/index.php?page 362> (same as the Baseball Canada rule book)



Gearheads author Brad Jones in action

3. A Baseball dry-erase clipboard or a small hand-held dry-erase whiteboard.

This is a great tool to draw up and demonstrate proper positioning and movement on the field. Hand-held whiteboards can be found at office supply stores or dollar stores. Alternatively, the coach's clipboards with erasable surface can be used to draw up and demonstrate positioning for the umpire.

If you can find a magnetic whiteboard, there are magnetic pieces you can use for situations. These can be found on sites like Amazon.



4. A set of officials (football or soccer) walkie-talkies.

This is a big one for me for 2025. I have bought two sets of headsets with the hopes of communicating with young umpires while they are on the field. In the hopes of identifying their use for mentors and young umpires, my plan of using these headsets will be to evaluate their benefits in supporting my local association's umpires.



This plan will be a big experiment. By giving on-demand guidance and support while they are in the act of calling a play, I hope these headsets can be a tool for building internal thought patterns to properly pause-read-react to a play. For example, these headsets may have benefits in developing timing and really thinking about what has happened. The hope of using headsets will be that a mentor can have contact with the umpire as they are in action. Also, mentors can give appropriate rule interpretation of a play, if the field umpires require it.

However, the questions that will need to be answered in 2025 will be:

- a) Will the headsets be more of a distraction and flood the umpire with too much stimulus to concentrate on the game?
- b) Will the headsets lead the on-field umpires to defer to the mentor on tough calls on the field, even when the mentor is no way in a good position to do so?

So, as you can tell. So many ways to improve the program this off season.

To deal with these questions, some protocol and guidelines are needed in your role as a mentor. Identify one or two skills to work on and throughout the game reinforce them. The headsets can be used to build the reactive memory to independently get in position, see the play, take appropriate reflective time, identify the appropriate rule, then make a call, using clear mechanics.

A strategy to step back and let the on-field crew do their business might mean turning off the microphone on the mentor's end and just letting the on-field crew do their stuff. To this, using the headset means that the mentor is not making the call, or imposing what they saw. Let the on-field umpire call what they saw, with the mentor only giving support and rule interpretation when needed.

Go by what they saw and have on the field and help build their confidence. Only when necessary, a mentor should interject with the on-field crew to enhance a potential learning moment and present the appropriate rule interpretation along with proper mechanics and positioning for the play.



BCBUA AWARD WINNERS FOR 2024 ANNOUNCED

Junior Umpires of the Year:

Area 1: South Vancouver Island

Mason Johnstone - Victoria

Area 2: North Vancouver Island

Kris Donovan - Port Alberni

Area 3: Lower Mainland East

Cooper Tuck - Maple Ridge

Area 4: Lower Mainland West

Luc Prest - North Vancouver

Area 5: Lower Mainland South

Jackson Elder - Delta

Area 6: Thompson

Liam Murray - Enderby

Area 7: Okanagan

Jachin Bitgood - Kelowna

Area 8: Kootenays

Aiden Bilenki - Fruitvale

Area 9: Northern BC

Gabe Hammerstrom - Prince George

Doug Hudlin Distinguished Service Award

John Pentland - Ladner

Howard Chapman Sr Umpire of the Year

Matt Lowndes - Terrace

Ian Lamplugh Award for an Up and Coming Umpire

Daniel Law - Maple Ridge

George Connelly Builder's Award

Mark Luknowski - Chilliwack

Bill Murphy Award for the Most Improved Umpire

Cory Waters - Victoria

Chuck Blaikie Award for Outstanding Contribution to the BCBUA

Brad Jones - Nanaimo

Richard Christie Award for the Unsung Hero

Shawn Bird - Maple Ridge

Abe Shapiro Mentorship Award

Gord McFarlane - Cloverdale

Female Umpire of the Year

Margaret Jean Willis - Kamloops

Alex Thompson Award for the most Dedicated Young Umpire

Michael Burwell - Langley

Don Hass Award for the Most Inspirational National Umpire

Samantha Chapman - Maple Ridge



In 2024, the BCBUA was well represented in West Coast League action in Victoria, Nanaimo, Kelowna, and Kamloops. Many of the new umpires promoted to the league this year have been graduates of our Umpire Academy, like Jordan Laidlaw (above) and Mike Burwell, Bryce Dobbs-Cox, and Margaret Jean Willis (below).



BCBUA PRESIDENT RECOGNIZED FOR CAREER WITH RCMP

This past fall, BCBUA President Sean Sullivan received a prestigious honor from the Governor General of Canada, and by way of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police.

Sullivan was invested into the Order of Merit of Police Forces at the level of Officer.

Established in October 2000, the Order of Merit of the Police Forces honours the leadership and exceptional service or distinctive merit displayed by the men and women of the Canadian Police Services, and recognizes their commitment to this country. The primary focus is on exceptional merit, contributions to policing and community development.

The Officer of the Order of Merit of the Police Forces recognizes outstanding meritorious service in duties of responsibility over an extended period, usually at the regional or provincial level.

Sullivan served Canada and the RCMP for over 30 years finishing at the rank of Chief Superintendent of Vancouver Island, the 3rd highest rank in the country.

The BCBUA thanks you Sully for your years of dedicated service to the citizens of Canada!

EXTRA INNINGS!

In recognition of your award, HeyBlue! Online is going into Extra Innings with BCBUA President Sean Sullivan.



Top of the 1st:

Who was your favourite baseball team growing up?

The Montreal Expos



Top of the 2nd:

What is the best MLB stadium you have visited?

Safeco Field in Seattle or whatever it's called now.

Bottom of the 3rd:

What baseball park in BC do you like the most?

Fairfield Island in Chilliwack. Great tournament host with four beautiful diamonds. Also, I use to be president of minor baseball there for four years so I have a soft spot for it.

Bottom of the 4th:

When you played (former National Jr Team) you were a pitcher. What was your go-to pitch?

I had a natural running fastball with pretty good control. That was my best pitch.

Top of the 5th:

What's your favourite Movie?

Shawshank Redepition and Major League 1



Bottom of the 6th:

Who is your favourite Actor?

Ryan Reynolds in the Deadpool series



Top of the 7th:

What is your favourite ball park food?

Hot Dog for sure.



It's the 7th inning stretch.... What will you be washing that hotdog down with?

At a major league game, definitely a cold beer. Youth games, always a water.

Top of the 8th:

What's your favourite Genre of Music?

70's and 80's

Bottom of the 9th:

What's the Best City you have ever lived in?

Halifax



Let's go EXTRA INNINGS with Sean Sullivan!

Top of 10:

You golf a lot. What's your favourite club?

Driver

Bottom of the 10th

What's the best score you've ever shot?

76! Just this year. I was on fire!



2024 BCBUA PROVINCIALS ASSIGNMENTS

The following umpires participated in Provincial Championships. For the first time in the last number of seasons there were more applicants for Provincials than assignments to give. This is great! The BCBUA is thankful to have a great group of umpires willing to work Provincial Assignments and our partner groups were thankful for our efforts! Way to go team! Look for the 2025 application to work provincials in spring!

Apologies for any errors or omissions.

18U College Prep (Duncan) Scott Eckardt, Chet Masse, Cory Waters, Matthias Smith, Brad Jones, Harrison Young, Jacob Goba, Seth Wall

Sr PBL (Whalley) Tyler Hoffman, Corey Klein, Blaise Laveay, Thomas Brock, Troy Carmont, Joe Mallinson, Daniel Law, Trevor Sharpe, Craig Burt

BC Summer Games (Ridge Meadows) Kenny Colosie, Shawn Bird, Mike Pratt, Owen Napieralsky, Anderson Charles, Graeme McMurray, Filip Van Rengen, Cooper Tuck, Trevor James, Samantha Chapman

18U AAA (Cloverdale) Michael Burwell, Anderson Charles, Daniel Law, Bill Keegan, Corey Klein, Cory Russell

15U AA (Tsawwassen) Jackson Bakker, Owen Napieralsky, Sheridan Abels, Mitch Friedman, Tyler Olfert, Jeff Liu, Greg Zakarian, Tor Bogwald, Yuhon Chen, Ash Robinson, Trevor James

13U AAA (Duncan) Chet Masse, Jesse Ferguson, Will Chambers, Brad Smith, Erik Eriksson, Brad Jones, Trevor Rochon, Matthias Smith, Darcy Johnston

Bantam PBL (Victoria) Tim O'Quinn, Evan Quan, Chet Masse, Harrison Young, Seth Wall, Cory Waters

15U AAA (Kamloops) Magaret-Jean Willis, Austin Johannsen, Kevin Schmidt, Carter Schmidt, Kevin Burk, Max Langley, Craig Burt, Jim Van Meer

18U College Prep (Nanaimo) Nick Moore, Jason Vance, Troy Carmont, Brad Jones, Matthias Smith, Jayden Moore

BCBUA PROVINCIALS UMPIRES 2024 continued...

Junior PBL (Coquitlam) Daniel Law, Louis Wight, Michael Burwell, Bryce Dobbs-Cox, Jackson Bakker, Thomas Brock
Graeme McMurray, Mark Luknowsky

15U AAA (Chilliwack) Sean Sullivan, Josiah Hansen, Mark Luknowsky

13U AAA/ 13U AA (Chilliwack) E. Fairborn, V. Fairborn, Ash Robinson, Tor Bogwald, Carlos Navarette, Melissa Dahlen
Riley Harrison, Cayden Mclean

Sr Men's AAA (Kamloops) Blaise Laveay, Kenny Colosie, Shawn Bird, Mark Penner, Noah Tombe, Matt Hicketts

Sr Men's AA (Kamloops) Kenny Colosie, Tyler Hoffman, Austin Johannsen, Jordan Laidlaw, Michael Burwell, Darcy Rysz,
Noah Tombe, Kevin Schmidt

BCBUA UMPIRES ASSIGNED TO WESTERN CANADA CHAMPIONSHIPS

18U AAA Western (Chilliwack) Troy Carmont, Mark Luknowsky, Mark Penner, Louis Wight, Daniel Law, Michael Burwell,
Bryce Dobbs-Cox

Sr Men's AA Western (South Surrey) Corey Klein, Phil Bourgeois, Mike Green, Shawn Bird, Gord McFarlane, Peter Wall



“After all the signals I’ve given you, you still voted for the wrong candidate.”



PROVINCIALS 2025





From Spud Island

By Steve Boutang

I will begin by saying Merry Christmas from the unseasonably warm Island Of Prince Edward.

Potatoes have been harvested, golf courses put to bed, stores shuttered, and land prepared and tilled and tucked away for the long winter's nap.

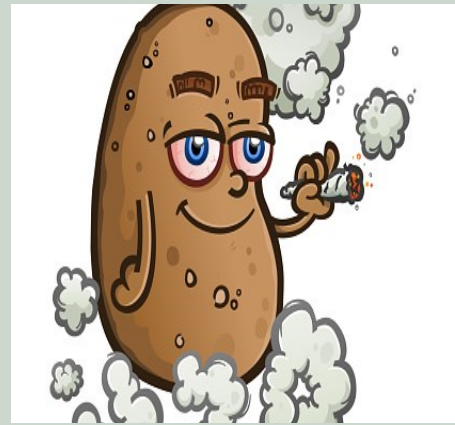
We have not had any real snow as yet, and nothing that even remotely comes close to cold weather, for which I am grateful for.

The beautiful fall weather permitted us to play baseball (and golf) almost right up to November this year. And I was on the field on October 25 for the first time in my 41 year career. It was wonderful.



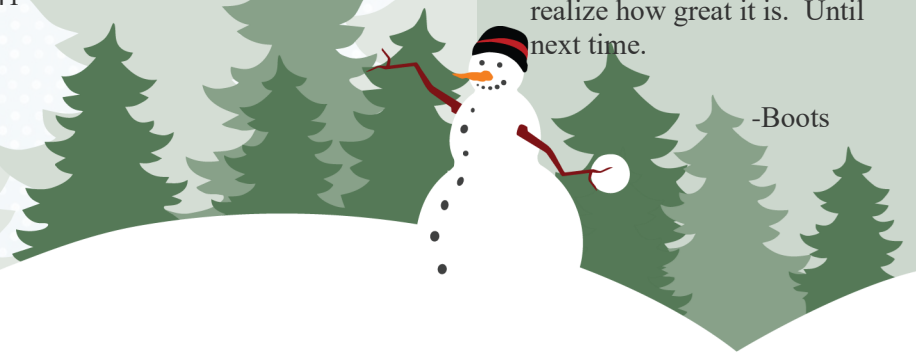
What was also wonderful were the visits we enjoyed this summer from our friends from BC. John Pentland, his son, and a few family friends stayed with us on their cycling trip around PEI. We had a fantastic visit with an amazing man and his friends. Kamloops native Rob Allan joined us for a weekend of teaching a Sr Course Conductor workshop—a first for baseball PEI. It was nice to spend another week with friends from home.

Speaking of firsts, we are eagerly anticipating our first Umpire Academy being held in PEI likely next June (when baseball is underway again). Don't get me started on the never ending spring here.



One thing for certain is that we miss our BC Umpire Family, but we are doing our best to create great umpire experiences with our new family here in PEI. We are excited to grow the program here and make it a fraction as good as what you folks in BC have as a result of all your hard work over the years. Looking at your results this year should make you all realize how great it is. Until next time.

-Boots



CALENDAR OF CLINICS

February 22 Female Umpire Clinic (Tentative)

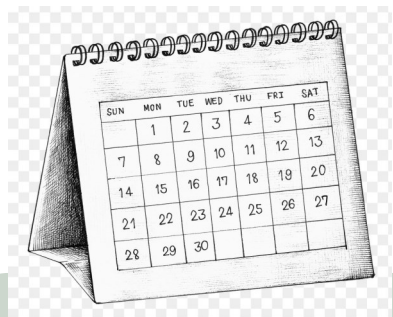
April 10-13 Umpire Academy

April 30-May 4 National Clinic

May 10-11 Level 3 clinic Nanaimo (Tentative)

TBA Level 3 clinic Langley

April 5-6 Level 3 clinic Kelowna (Tentative)



MARK THE DATES!

IN MEMORIAM

LARRY SEMINOFF 1947-2024

For those of you who didn't know Larry Seminoff, you missed out on meeting one of the true baseball fans in BC.

Larry lived the majority of his life in Grand Forks where he was Mr. Baseball.

His legacy was not about his play on the field, however, but for all the work he performed as a dedicated contributor to baseball off the field.

He was a coach and a manager, at various times, and the commissioner of many leagues including the BC Sr Mens Baseball League for 40 years.

But Larry will be remembered as being the founder, organizer, and chief cook and bottle washer for the Grand

Forks International Baseball Tournament first played there in 1974.

That beautiful stadium you drive by on Highway 3 as you go through Grand Forks is there because of the work Larry did over the years to improve it from a cow pasture in the 60's to the 2nd best stadium in BC, behind only Nat Bailey.

He raised funds to put in grandstands, lights, food facilities, and a beer garden. He co-ordinated the efforts to bring world class teams to a city of 4500 people each year - for which he was enshrined as a "Freeman of the City of Grand Forks" in 2023.

Larry ran the BC Sr Mens Baseball League for 4 decades and upon his recent retirement the association re-named their Championship Trophy in his name.



He was a play by play man, PA announcer, statistician and baseball historian who reveled in telling a story about Baseball, whether that be of local or MLB significance. And mostly he was a friend to everyone who had the pleasure of knowing him.

The BCBUA offers our condolences to his family.

