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BRITISH COLUMBIA BASEBALL UMPIRE'S ASSOCIATION

# Hey Blue! Newsletter

## BCBUA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NOTICE



The Annual General Meeting of the BCBUA will be held at the Chateau Victoria, 740 Burdett St., Victoria BC, in Salon B. at 12:00 Noon on Sunday November 17. Up for election will be the Area Director positions for Area 1 (South Island), Area 3 (Lower Mainland East), Area 5 (Lower Mainland South), Area 7 (Okanagan South), and Area 9 (Northern BC). Awards and information will also be presented as always.

## IN MEMORY. . .

Al Lexier, former UIC of Richmond Minor Baseball, and the UIC and a Director of the Lower Mainland Baseball Association passed away on March 13 following a brief illness. Al was a devoted umpire and baseball man, and a supporter of all umpire programs. He was a mentor and a friend to us all. Do-

nations in Al's memory may be made to the BCBUA Umpire Mentorship Program. Please make your cheques payable to BCBUA.

It is also with sadness that we announce that one of our founding fathers and this province's first supervisor lost his former wife

after a brief illness this past September. Pauline Chapman passed away September 19. She will be remembered by many long time national members as the lady who brought us milk and cookies when we had to write our National Exams at Howards house. Best wishes to the Chapman family.

## BANNER YEAR ONCE AGAIN FOR BCBUA OFFICIALS

BC umpires performed admirably at the 2013 edition of the Baseball Canada Championships.

Jeremy Pauls of Abbotsford was selected to work home plate in the Gold Medal game of his first Peewee National. Les Maerov worked the semi-

final plate in the same event.

Scott Eckardt of Victoria worked the Bronze plate at the Bantams and fellow BC Umpire Brian Wainright first base in the Gold Medal game.

Darcy Rysz from Kelowna worked 3<sup>rd</sup> base in the Midget Championship game in Que-

bec.

Nick Moore worked a cross over plate at Junior, and Mark Bodwell the Bronze plate at Senior.

This was easily the most successful year to date for BC umpires in the history of our program.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct. 24-27 Baseball Canada Fall Convention – Halifax, NS  
Nov. 16 BCBUA Board Meeting – Victoria, BC  
Nov. 17 BCBUA Annual General Meeting – Victoria, BC  
April 3-6, 2014 National Umpires Clinic – Kamloops, BC



It's great to report on a fine year, and some of your Association's plans going forward.

We've continued to see our umpires well represented in national and international competition. The individual highlight is our provincial umpire supervisor,

Steve Boutang, getting a terrific assignment to the 18U World Cup tournament in Taiwan. There are very few international assignments available, so getting one is itself a mark of high achievement. Steve represented us, and indeed baseball in Canada, very well.

On the national front, we again had a good number of assignments, and our umpires at nationals showed the strength of our program in BC, and their own achievements, with some profile assignments on the final day of many of the tournaments.

Provincially, we provided umpires for a wide range of provincial tournaments, and this year more than ever provided supervision, evaluation, mentoring and education at the tournaments, with umpires gaining confidence and improving their game. At the same time, we provided our league clients with some top quality officiating. I really encourage every umpire to consider applying for a provincial tournament next year.

We're going to see some changes in our board next year, and one of those is in the post of treasurer. We will welcome Sean Sullivan as our new treasurer, but first I want to thank Fabian Poulin for his years of service in that role. Fabian has served this association with distinction in that role, and deserves our thanks for his service. But much more than that, Fabian is retiring from an umpire career that is distinguished on and off the field. He leaves our association with wonderful friends and memories, and we wish him well as he leaves his umpire equipment behind.

Your board met in September, and covered a lot of ground.

We are happy to welcome Don Hass and Rob Allan as assistant provincial supervisors. We thank Troy Carmont for his service in that role, and before that as co-supervisor for more than a year. Don and Rob will be working with Steve Boutang, and also carrying out a number of functions on behalf of the BCBUA. Notably among these, Rob Allan has agreed to become the new chair of our very active Education Committee.

Our registration system and data base were renewed this year, and we think most of the adjustment and growing pains are behind us. We're continuing to expand our use of our data base, and this year will move to on-line exams, for instance. We thank George Smith, our Secretary, and Adam DeBray, our technical resource, for all their efforts. And of course, our webmaster, Brian Cargnelli, who has worked with George and Adam to integrate our different systems. Brian and Steve are currently putting together a new workbook, which we think will be a useful aid in and after clinics.

We've made a change to our level system going forward.

Umpires who attain level 2 and level 3 and remain continuous BCBUA members, will retain the level that they achieved, even if they don't refresh all of their qualifications each year. We do want to encourage umpires to keep their levels current, and there are still incentives to do so. All umpires are expected to refresh their knowledge each year, and one of the best ways to do that is to write the exam for their level.

We hope this works even better with an on-line exam. Of course, clinics are another great way to learn and renew!

Umpires wanting to progress to the next level (eg level 2 to 3 or level 3 to 4), must be current with all of their present level's requirements. Finally, for provincial tournaments or anything else allocated by BCBUA, preference will be given to umpires who meet their present level's requirements on a current basis.

Congratulations to every umpire who worked to make baseball a wonderful sport for players, coaches, spectators and other officials.

## NO SUPERCLINIC OR ADVANCED CLINIC IN THE LOWER MAINLAND

The BCBUA board of directors have decided that neither the Superclinic nor an Advanced Clinic will be held in 2014 for the Lower Mainland due to what is perceived as an oversaturation of the market. Last year the attendance at Superclinic was down significantly and through analysis it was decided that we needed to take a break from that for-

mat for a while. But please be aware that we are not abandoning the Superclinic format, just taking a break for this upcoming year at least.

As for an advanced clinic, if there is interest we will be holding one in the Interior sometime in the Spring of 2014. If you are required to attend an

advanced clinic this year to either qualify or maintain your Level 3 standing, then you will need to attend this clinic if it is held. If there is no Advanced clinic, then your qualifications will be held over for an additional year. Contact Bill MacMillan via email if you're not sure if you need to attend this clinic.

## CHANGES AT BASEBALL CANADA



Changes abound at Baseball Canada. The position of National Umpire Supervisor has been dissolved in favour of a reduced committee and a new structure. Jody Frowley of Nova Scotia (The Baseball Canada Appointee) will continue to serve as Chairman of the committee. The committee will consist of 5 individuals who will run sub-committees. These sub-committees will be headed by Corrie Davis (High performance), Jon Oko (Special Projects), Derrick Dubbell (Grassroots), Ed

Quinlan (Supervisors and Evaluators), and Chris Wilhelm (Instructors Development).

The new structure will hopefully result in positive changes going forward.

The proposal was put forth by Davis himself in an effort to accomplish more for the National umpire program.

## BIG DOIN'S IN THE FALL OF 2013! BOOK 6 OF THE L3C TRILOGY

As the curtain goes up on this next chapter of the Level 3 Coordinator (L3C) epic we find Eager Beaver, the intrepid reporter for the Hey Blue! sitting at his desk in the news room deep in



thought. He is trying to decide what to include in his new book entitled Great Mysteries of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. Should he delve into who actually shot Kennedy or what the Americans are hiding in Area 51, perhaps he should investigate whether Boris and Natasha ever used the "Hush-A-Boom" or should Bugs Bunny really have taken a left toin at Albuquoikie?

He is startled from his reverie when the special phone rings. Not the Bat Phone but the L3C Phone sends out its jarring summons.

"Hey Blue!, Eager Beaver speaking, how may I help you?"

"Mr. Beaver, this is the L3C speaking and do I have a scoop for you!"

"Well Mr. L3C, let me grab my quill and tablet...OK go ahead."

"I have just returned to my palace after the Fall meeting of the Great Gaggles of Deep Thinkers (GGDT) and there are some changes a comin' so hold onto your hat!"

*(Continued on page 5 "Level 3")*

## PRETTY IN PINK



Left to right: Mitch Petersen, Don Sytko, Andre Jean, Mike Yamaguchi, George Smith, Bill MacMillan, Jerry Tregaskis

When umpires Jerry Tregaskis and Bill MacMillan and tournament Supervisor George Smith heard that a young Prince George boy was raising money at the Pee wee Provincials to support Breast Cancer Research, they sprung into

action with a wonderful plan. Tregaskis and Pro Image donated 6 Pink umpire jerseys and t-shirts to the umpires assigned to the tournament, and they all wore them for a few selected games, and donated their game fee

to top it off. The gesture was widely recognized by local supporters and parents alike, and the young man was able to double his donations in quick order.

Congratulations guys on a job well done!



*It's not all baseball when at an International event...  
How'd Steve get so many women to allow themselves to  
be photographed with him?*

I was once again honoured to represent my country at an International tournament. I wish there were a way that so many more of you could have this experience. And in part, I suspect that's part of why it is so special to go to another country with the Canadian flag on my bag. The opportunities these days are rare indeed. I think of how many good umpires there are in BC, and in Canada, and I am thankful that people believed in me enough to send me. And of course I am thankful for the people who taught me to believe in myself and my abilities.

Some of those people (and I'm sorry if I forgot an obvious name) who I grew up watching and learning from were: Sig Ottenbreit in Kelowna - a Life member of BCBUA... Lorne Raymond, Brian Cargnelli, Rob Allan,

and my mentor Don Hass.

I have been fortunate enough to work with and learn from some real professionals in the past number of years. Former MLB umpires Ron Barnes and Ian Lampugh. And of course some of our National leaders like Corrie Davis and Andrew Higgins who saw fit enough to recommend me to this event, and who worked hard with me over the past few months to prepare me for this challenge.

Naturally, one doesn't get anywhere in baseball, or in life at all really, without a supportive family. Rhonda accompanied me and was my balance point for 2 weeks. I couldn't ask for a better partner. My brother Mike's well wishes and encouragement came regularly. And naturally I thought of my folks, both of whom are gone now. They were my inspiration as a youth to become involved in baseball and in umpiring.

An interesting co-incidence occurred on my last day in Taiwan. I was working 1<sup>st</sup> base in the Bronze Medal game. At the stadium they list on the scoreboard the names of the umpires and their positions.... Home, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, LF, RF. There is room for 6 characters on each line. So I was always referred to as BOUTAN.

On the last day, the umpire from Columbia had the plate, Ronald Escuderio.

For some unknown reason they put his first name on the board. And so the umpire assignments on the scoreboard read "RONALD" and right underneath, "BOUTAN".

I noticed it during the National anthem. And even though it hit me like a brick at the time, I was happy that Dad was watching.

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## **NATIONAL CLINIC RETURNS TO KAMLOOPS IN 2014!**

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The National Umpires Clinic will return to our long-time host city of Kamloops for our annual evaluation weekend. This is our 5th consecutive year in Kamloops and everyone involved is really excited to continue this tradition. All National umpires are encouraged to attend and only those attending will be considered for travelling assignments in 2014. The tentative date is April 3-6. Registration for this event will begin in the New Year.

Cost is yet to be determined.

There will be a limited number of Special Invitations extended next year and these will be determined by the National Umpires Committee on a selection basis.

Please contact Supervisor Steve Boutang by email if you wish to be considered.



(Level 3 continued from page 3)

"Wait, let me get my hat....OK , what are these momentous changes?"

"The GGDT has decided that we need to streamline our process a bit so we can go fully online with our Level 2 & 3 written exams in 2014. To do this we need to allow something that permits some members to be Grandfathered into their various Levels. I don't understand all the 1s & 0s of computer speak but I am informed that this is necessary."

"Oops, darn...I dropped my hat. Is it OK if I put my hat down? It is hard to etch while I am holding it."

"Yes, yes.....Here it is. Starting in 2014 any member who has achieved Level 2 or Level 3 prior to 2014 will be considered a permanent Level 2 or 3 as long as they maintain their BCBUA membership without interruption. This means that for those who are grandfathered into their individual level they will no longer be required to write an exam, be evaluated or attend an Advanced Clinic to **MAINTAIN** their level. However to advance to the next level, be it Level 3 or Level 4 the member must become current in all the required elements of such an advancement."

"Doesn't this leave the door wide open for a member to take the easy road and only pay their money to stay where they are?"

"Yes, there will be a certain number of

members who will do just that but they are not going to clinics (for the most part) anyway. This change will be a test in itself in that it will now be up to the member to choose between the path that leads to stagnation and a deterioration of their skills, knowledge and ability or to continue on the learning path and improve their skills, knowledge and ability."

"What incentive, [meaning what's in it for me], is there to continue on the learning path and not choose to be grandfathered?"

"There are a couple of benefits to being a current Level 2 or 3. One is that there can be no advancement without being current in all your qualifications and the other is that current Level 2 or 3s will get preference over grandfathered Level 2 or 3s in all assignments made by BCBUA."

"You used the term "current" several times, what does it mean?"

"OK, let me see if I can explain this concept. A grandfathered member is someone who achieved their level, be it 2 or 3, some time in the past few years (that we have records for) but have failed to maintain those qualifications. As long as they have had **CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP** since then we will credit them with the highest Provincial level they have achieved.

For example, Joe Bloe achieved a Level 2 in 2005 but, although he has maintained his membership he has not written a Level 2 exam since. As long as his membership has

remained unbroken since 2005 he would become a grandfathered Level 2. If he wished to advance to Level 3 he would then have write and pass his Level 2 exam before he could move on.

It is a little bit more complex for a Level 3 because there are more requirements. For instance if Joe's sister Jane had an evaluation done in 2004 and attended the Advanced Clinic in 2005 but didn't pass the exam till 2006 then 2006 would be the year that she had **ALL** of the Level 3 requirements and would then be grandfathered to Level 3 as of 2006 as long as her membership was continuous. Clear?"

"As mud! If I am confused and I need some answers could I call you?"

"Yes. My name is Bill MacMillan and my contact info is on the BCBUA website. I don't do texts!"

"Oh, how Neanderthal. Was there anything else at the GGDT?"

"Since you ask, yes. They decided to continue both the Mentorship Program and the 3 Umpire Project for 2014 and the date for the Annual General Meeting is November 17 @ noon somewhere in Victoria. Keep an eye on the Hey Blue! for details."

"Wow, I had better get this to press. Thanks for the call Mr. L3C...or can I call you Bill?"

"No you may not, Mr. Beaver. Carry on!"

## New Assistant Supervisors Announced

BCBUA Provincial Supervisor of Umpires Steve Boutang has announced a new supervisor team for the province. Rob Allan and Don Hass will act as Assistant Supervisors to Boutang beginning immediately.

Boutang says it was necessary to add 2 assistants following the resignation of former assistant Troy Carmont in April.



"There are a lot of responsibilities in this position, and time commitments that I can't manage on my own. Besides, Rob and Don bring a tremendous wealth of information, experience, and knowledge that I really wanted to have as part of the team going forward".

Allan will also take over the role of Education Chair on the BCBUA Board. He will not be running for re-election as Area Rep for Area 3.



The 2013 baseball season brought 5 complaints to my attention this year.

Two of the complaints were dropped because they did not fit the criteria for umpire misconduct.

Two more of the complaints were investigated thoroughly but neither

of them warranted any action by the discipline committee.

The final complaint was the result of a long standing issue between an official and a coaching staff that was not an actual misconduct allegation but rather a request for mediation assistance.

The teachable moment that came from this year's issues is that when situations on field get tense, as officials we should always be very conscious of our proximity to coaches and players. Contact during such times can be viewed differently by each of the participants.

### BERRY ACCLAIMED AS PRESIDENT

Under the new bylaws, 2013 represents the first year in which candidates for Table Officer positions must declare their intention to run for election prior to September 1. John Berry was the sole person who filed nomination papers for the position of President. Berry enters his 6<sup>th</sup> term as President after having served the past 10 years as President of the BCBUA.

### SULLIVAN JOINS AS TREASURER

Delta's Sean Sullivan was acclaimed to the position of Treasurer for a 2 year term. Sullivan was the lone person to file nomination papers by the deadline. Outgoing Treasurer Fabian Poulin of Nanaimo indicated in August his intention to retire from the BCBUA.

### Tier 1 Western Bantam Picture

**Supervisor Rhonda Pauls**  
(guess which one is Rhonda)

Brad Woof, Gary Webber, Phil Bourgeois, Sean Weatherill, Corey Klein, Mike Green, Mark Wright, Ed Levinson, Keith Hartup

### POULIN ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT



After a fantastic 32 year career as an umpire, Fabian Poulin announced his retirement from baseball at the BC Sr Men's Provincials in Victoria. Poulin was part of the National program for 23 years and attended 10 National championships during his tenure. He also completed

the rare National cycle in which he umpired at all the National tournaments from Peewee to Senior. Only Jerry Tregaskis had been able to complete the cycle prior to 2013.



Concussions are increasing at an alarming rate around baseball. Players are being concussed more often, and guess what? So are umpires. Truth.

Several of our own BCBUA umpires have been concussed this year and last, being hit in the head area by pitches primarily. This can happen at any level of baseball, although mostly these specific injuries are as a result of higher levels of baseball where the balls are travelling at greater velocity.

It has nothing to do with poor equipment or protection, or umpires bailing out at the last second. Yes, there are better masks out there than others, but concussions still happen with these products.

Mainly, it happens because of the whiplash effect (among other things) whereby a foul ball goes screaming past the catcher and directly onto the face and head area of the umpire, snapping the head backwards.

I'm not a doctor, but I can tell you that concussions are growing because the symptoms and signs were often ignored in the past, and now people are getting checked and diagnosed more frequently. And the effects are dramatic the more it happens. And the symptoms take longer to dissipate the more times you get your melon rattled.

If you do some research on umpire positioning you will discover that the best position to avoid getting hit is the "slot position". That's the position where the middle of your body is positioned basically on the inside corner of the plate. The best way to accomplish

this is by working in the "Box Stance – Heel/Toe" with your head and back slightly leaning forward. The more you hide behind the catcher, the more likely you are to get hit ironically enough.... And if you get too low and hide behind the catcher completely, then you can't see the pitches.

If you work in a position where your head is slightly above the catcher, on the inside portion of the plate, slightly exposed, it is almost physically impossible to get hit in the head under normal foul ball circumstances.

Thus, reducing your chance of getting that dreaded concussion.

Some people like the "Gerry Davis" style stance. Yes, you see the pitches

And before you get your bell rung, go to the doctor. There are base line tests out there that will measure your brain functions when you are healthy. Go get one done. That way, when you have a concussion, the doctors have a place to start their measurements and can tell you how bad your injury is.

When you do have that bad experience when you get hit, for pete sakes go to the doctor and get checked. And TAKE TIME OFF of baseball! That includes the bases. I'm not joking here! Coming back too soon exacerbates this condition.

Finally, think of the rest of your life.

Baseball is a hobby. Yes we take it seriously. But it's a game. Your family,

your health, and the rest of your life are way more important to look after.

*Editors note: The representations in this article are to be considered opinions of the author and are not to be construed as any specific medical advice.*



better because you are basically more upright, looking almost overtop of the catcher's head. But you are too exposed to foul balls in this position. You'll get hit on the arms and head much more, and it's dangerous.

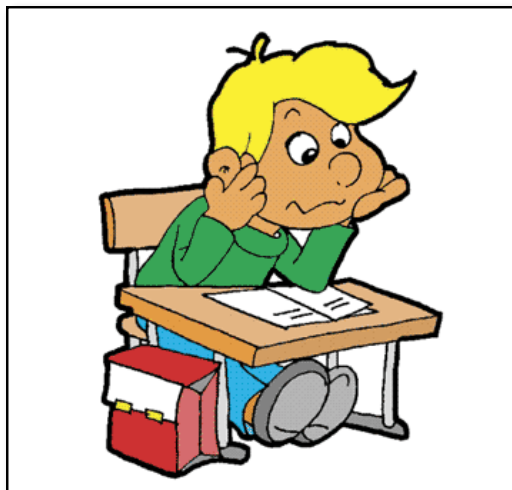
MLB is asking their umpires to get away from this stance. And so am I.

Try hard this winter to develop a good, solid box stance-heel toe stance. And in spring, when the season begins anew, start working this style and stay safe!

# EDUCATION CHANGES 2014

After many years of faithful service, the BCBUA Executive have decided to retire our old clinic manuals in order to go in a new direction. After much debate, the education committee has appointed Brian Cagnelli and Steve Boutang to develop a new workbook for each of the levels. The manual for Level 1 will be a workbook style while the Level 2 Manual will be more of a discussion and scenario interpretation handout. The idea behind both manuals is that as the Education Committee develops new teaching tools and areas of interest, they can be incorporated easily into the new manuals each year. Thus a student who has already attended the Level 2 clinic in the past will get new material each year in addition to the existing material.

One of the biggest complaints from our students is that the clinics are the same old thing year in and year out. Well I bet you didn't know it, but we offer a Refresher Level 2 clinic to associations. These clinics are designed for the experienced umpire who has already been to at



least 3 Level 2 clinics and just needs that "tune-up" before the season starts. Any association that wants to host one of these 4 hour long sessions has to guarantee at least 6 people or \$300.00 to cover our costs. Of course

the more people the better, but this is the minimum level of participation we require. Additional students have to pay for membership (\$50) not the clinic itself. Eric Rasmussen put on one of these last year as a pilot project on the Island and it was very well received by all those who attended. They can be done as a block of 4 hours, or of course broken into two evening sessions.

We are constantly trying to make our clinics better and January we will be hosting an instructor workshop in

the Lower Mainland to teach our instructor how to use these new teaching tools. Everyone who has seen the manuals so far is really encouraged and excited about our new direction. Hopefully they will be well received by our students as well.

## BOOK CLINICS EARLY

If you are a UIC or you are responsible for booking clinics in your area, book early. Many of our weekends in March are over-run with clinics – particularly in the Lower Mainland. Book your association clinics starting in February to avoid the busiest

times and to ensure clinicians are available. We will also run clinics in the Vancouver area into April this year to make sure that we catch all associations who want to book clinics but who are unable to do so in March.

## EXAMS GOING DIGITAL IN 2014

Beginning in 2014 our level 2 and 3 exams will be offered online through our website. The level 1 quiz will continue to be written either in class or with the assistance of the local UIC. The level 4 exam has been widely successful online through the Baseball Canada

platform since its introduction in 2011. Paper exams will continue to be available to those who do not have computer access or who do not have compatible programs to open the exam. But exams will not be part of the clinic itself any longer.

## DID YOU KNOW??

New York Yankees closer Mariano Rivera had his first save on May 17, 1996 – a game he saved for starter Andy Pettitte. This was the first of 72 saves of Pettitte's victories – a record for a starter/closer combination.



## 2013 LOWER MAINLAND SOUTH REPORT – *by Rick Antoniak (Area Director)*

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After a wet start 2013 turned out to be a great season in Area 5. The record-setting sunshine made for a fun summer to be on the ball field.

Clinic season went smoothly as 190 members received training in our 9 Level 1 and 2 clinics. Several more of our members attended the Superclinic and the National clinic in Kamloops.

Our area hosted four Provincial Championships this summer. Mosquito A (10U), hosted by Cloverdale had AJ McFarlane (plate) and Alex Hackney umpiring the Gold Medal game. Mosquito AAA Tier 1 (11U), also hosted by Cloverdale, saw John Leith (plate), Sam Mitchell and Brian Wainwright on the Gold.

Surrey Canadian hosted the Pee wee A (13U) Championships. The Gold Medal game for that tournament featured Rommel Natino (plate), Griff Simmonds, and Jeremy Schwartz.

Langley hosted the BC Junior Premier Championship and

Phil Bourgeois (plate), Corey Klein, and Brian Wainwright earned the Gold Medal game. Thanks and congratulations to all of our umpires that participated in the various Provincials and other tournaments this season.

Congratulations also to Brian Wainwright and Mark Bodwell for their National Championship assignments this year. Brian went to Vaughn, Ontario for Bantam and Mark went to Windsor, Ontario for Senior.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all of the UICs, Clinic Instructors, and Mentors who took the time to work with our younger umpires this year. Twenty five percent of the members in our area are Youth Level 1 members. Welcome to the club! Keeping them involved and educated means good things for the future of umpiring in our area.

Enjoy the break and the holidays; the 2014 season will be on us before you know it!

## STUMP THE UMP

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In a recent Toronto Blue Jays game Brett Lawrie and Jose Reyes were both called out at 3rd base. Lawrie was standing at 3rd when he was called out and Reyes was just off the bag. Your question this month is how could both of these people been called out on this play. In fact the answer is a basic rule in Baseball, but like a lot of other rules the announcers (both past major league players and one of them has major league managerial experience) got the call wrong. The 3rd base umpire however got the call right. See if you can figure it out.



John Main Gold Medal Crew from left to right: Derrick Hall , Greg Harrison (plate), and Mark Wright

### SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

The Ron Boutang Memorial Umpire Scholarship will not be awarded in 2014 as there were no applications received by the deadline. President John Berry indicated that the march towards establishing a registered Foundation for the Scholarship is ongoing and that this should be completed soon. There was over a thousand dollars raised in various fundraising efforts in 2013 and this money will be added to the amounts already in the scholarship account.

### HARTLEY AND LOWNDES AT WBC

Umpires Kris Hartley and Matt Lowndes wore the Canadian flag proudly at the World Baseball Challenge in Prince George this past August. The 2 BCBUA umpires were joined by 3 American umpires, a Japanese official and an umpire from Cuba to make up the crew in blue. The event was the 3<sup>rd</sup> successive WBC for Hartley and the 2<sup>nd</sup> for Lowndes.

US umpire and former Big Leaguer Scott Higgins served as the Tournament Supervisor, with former AAA umpire Jake Uhlenhopp and former Maple Ridge resident Azim Jessa joining them.

Cuba won the event with a 14-4 final victory over Japan.

### ALLAN WORKS CANADA GAMES FINAL

Rob Allan added another chapter to a growing list of accomplishments. The Maple Ridge resident was assigned Home Plate for the Gold Medal game at the Canada Games in Sherbrooke, Quebec. Allan has worked 3 International tournaments in his career, and now 2 National Finals having worked the Peeewe Gold Medal game in 2006.

### BOUTANG AT U18 WORLD CUP

Provincial Umpire Supervisor Steve Boutang was selected by the International Baseball Federation to represent Canada at the U18 World Cup in Taichung, Taiwan in August-September. Boutang was assigned the plate for a Semi Final game and 1<sup>st</sup> base in the Bronze Medal. Previously, Boutang worked the Gold Medal Plate at the 2008 World University Championships in the Czech Republic, and the 2012 Women's World Cup of Baseball in Edmonton.

### SECRETARY REPORT...

In 2013 there were 1201 members registered in the BCBUA. 445 members were registered at Youth level, 689 were level 1, 441 Level 2, 30 were regular level 3, 28 were level 4, and 13 were level 5. 2013 also saw 147 ejection reports filed in the new database.

*Editors note: We know that there are many other Ejection Reports that have not been filed, some by even our most senior officials because they felt that the incident did not warrant an ejection report. If it was serious enough to eject, write the report. You owe it to your fellow officials who may have to deal with that same person down the line.*

In 2012 we had a total of 1336 members and in 2011 a total of 1338.

While our membership numbers have dropped, baseball registration all across BC dropped in 2013 which is our main source of recruiting new umpires to the program.



Bill MacMillan of Trail presents Brad Elliot (left) and Matt Snary (right) both of Trail their Awards from the 2012 season. Brad received the George Connelly Builders award for outstanding contribution to officiating in their area and Matt was the Area's Junior Umpire of the Year award winner. Well done folks!



**John Main (BC Minor)** – Supervisor Jerry Tregaskis, Assistants Rick Antoniak, Bill Keegan

Working umpires: Curt Appleby, Phil Bourgeois, Keenan Bursey, Anton Cvitkovich, Alex Hackney, Derrick Hall, Greg Harrison, Corey Klein, Jake MacDonald, Les Maerov, Alanna Page, Chuck Pudlas, Nilan Ritter, Brandon Roberts, Mike Roberts, Jamie Shellenberg, Quentin Segal, Sean Weatherill, Rowan Webster-Shaw, Rob Welsh, Kynan Wright, Mark Wright, Luke Yam.

**Canadian College Championships – Supervisor Rob Allan**

Working umpires: Will Hunter, Brad Woof, Kelly Hunter, Rob Allan, Kris Hartley, Dan Rogers, Mark Wright

**Senior Provincial – Supervisor Steve Boutang**

Working umpires: Steve Boutang, Chet Masse, Scott Eckardt, Fabian Poulin, Matt Lowndes, Nick Moore, Will Hunter, Dan Rogers, Mark Bodwell

**Junior Provincial – Supervisor Kris Hartley**

Working umpires: Mark Wright, Chuck Abney, Kris Hartley

**Premier Provincial – Supervisor Don Hass**

Working umpires: Brad Woof, Corey Klein, Howard Chapman, Greg Teasdale, Brian Wainwright, Mark Bodwell, Phil Bourgeois, Troy Carmont, Les Maerov

**Junior Premier Provincial – Supervisor – Rhonda Pauls**

Working umpires: Bill Keegan, Corey Klein, Brian Wainwright, Ken Raison, Sean Weatherill, Phil Bourgeois, Jeremy Pauls, Ron Wernicke, Keith Hartup.

**Junior (BC Minor) – Supervisor Mark Bodwell**

Working umpires: Rick Antoniak, Gord McFarlane, Sean Sullivan, Gary Webber

**18U AAA (Midget BC Minor) – Supervisor Bill MacMillan**

Working umpires: Bill MacMillan, Rhonda Pauls, Don Sytko, Gary Webber, Sean Sullivan, Mike Green

**18U AA (Midget BC Minor) – Supervisor George Smith**

Working umpires: Curt Appleby, Shaun Sharpe, Grant Mellemstrand, Bill Roberts, Darrell Dale, Al Tulloch, Erik Eriksson, Jason Roberts, George Smith

**15U AAA (Bantam AAA BC Minor) – Supervisor Kris Hartley Assistant Supervisor Chris Connelly**

Working umpires: Rick Antoniak, Mark Wright, Sean Weatherill, Alex Sagert, Richard Connelly, Rob Irving, Kris Hartley

**15U AA (Bantam AA BC Minor) – Supervisor Jerry Tregaskis**

Working umpires: Lorne Raymond, Mitch Petersen, Chuck Abney, Callum Barbour, Clarence Bodden, Jerry Huggins, Darcy Rysz, Jeff Mucha, Jerry Tregaskis

**13U AAA (PeeWee AAA BC Minor) – Supervisor George Smith**

Working umpires: Andre Jean, Mitch Petersen, Bill MacMillan, Jerry Tregaskis, Don Sytko, Mike Yamaguchi, George Smith

**15U AAA (Bantam) Tier 1 Western – Supervisor Rhonda Pauls**

Working umpires: Brad Woof, Gary Webber, Phil Bourgeois, Sean Weatherill, Corey Klein, Mike Green, Mark Wright, Ed Levinson, Keith Hartup





ONE OF A KIND SPECIALS

ACT QUICKLY!!

## 2013 FALL CLEARANCE

Once a year we have to count inventory and it always turns up Surprises! Items that have been "tucked away" and forgotten. Discontinued items or "Orphans" or "Overstocked" items. All items are brand new and we want to clear them out! This can result in great savings to you!! Additionally we have been able to make some "Buys" from our suppliers and we can pass the savings on to you. But you need to act quickly.

*All items are on a "First Come-First Served basis. When they are gone THEY ARE GONE!*

### EQUIPMENT

- Honig's Zero Gravity Chest Protectors Regular \$175.00 **Sale Price: \$100.00**
- Honig's K1 Chest Protector Regular \$209.00 **Sale Price: \$100.00 (Last one)**
- Honigs Leg Guards-all sizes 15" - 18" Regular Price \$89.00 **Sale Price: \$70.00**
- Honigs K-96 Single Bar masks Regular \$110.00 **Sale Price: \$75.00**
- Honig's K4S-Silver Single bar Mask Regular \$100.00 **Sale Price: 75.00**
- Pro Nine Chest Protector size: L Regular \$99.00 **Sale Price \$75.00**

### PLATE SHOES

- Spotbilt size 8 1/2 List Price: \$120.00 **CLEARANCE: \$60.00 HALF PRICE!!**
- Pentagon Mid size 9 List Price: \$139.00 **CLEARANCE: \$80.00 BELOW COST!!**
- Pentagon-Mid size 9 1/2 List Price: \$139.00 **CLEARANCE: \$80.00 BELOW COST!!**
- Pentagon-Mid size 10 List Price: \$139.00 **CLEARANCE: \$80.00 BELOW COST!!**
- Honig's-K80 LEATHER Low-cut size 11 List Price: \$160.00 **CLEARANCE: \$90.00 BELOW COST!!**
- Honig's-K80 LEATHER Low-cut size 10 1/2 List Price: \$160.00 **Sale Price: \$90.00 BELOW COST!!**
- Honig's-K80 LEATHER Low-cut size 11 List Price: \$160.00 **CLEARANCE: \$90.00 BELOW COST!!**
- Honig's-K80 LEATHER Low-cut size 11 1/2 List Price: \$160.00 **Sale Price: \$100.00 BELOW COST!!**
- Honig's-K70 PATENT Low-cut size 11 List Price: \$170.00 **Sale Price: \$90.00 BELOW COST!!**
- Honig's-K70 PATENT Low-cut size 10 1/2 List Price: \$170.00 **Sale Price: \$90.00 BELOW COST!!**
- Reebok MLB Mid size 11 List Price: \$179.00 **Sale Price: \$100.00 BELOW COST!!**
- Reebok MLB Mid size 10 List Price: \$179.00 **Sale Price: \$100.00 BELOW COST!!**
- The Protector LEATHER Low-cut all sizes List Price: \$80.00 **Sale Price: \$50.00 BELOW COST!!**
- The Protector PATENT Low-cut all sizes List Price: \$80.00 **Sale Price: \$50.00 BELOW COST!!**
- The Protector LEATHER Mid-cut all sizes List Price: \$90.00 **Sale Price: \$60.00 BELOW COST!!**
- The Protector PATENT Mid-cut all sizes List Price: \$90.00 **Sale Price: \$60.00 BELOW COST!!**

### BASE SHOES

- Spotbilt size 8 List Price: \$99.00 **CLEARANCE: \$40.00 BELOW COST!!**
- Honig's-K50 PATENT size 10 List Price: \$70.00 **Sale Price: \$50.00 BELOW COST!!**
- Reebok MLB Mid size 11 List Price: \$89.00 **Sale Price: \$50.00 BELOW COST!!**
- Extreme Turf LEATHER all sizes List Price: \$60.00 **Sale Price: \$40.00 BELOW COST!!**
- Extreme Turf PATENT all sizes List Price: \$65.00 **Sale Price: \$45.00 BELOW COST!!**

### UNDERGARMENTS

- Tights-all sizes List Price: \$33.00 **Sale Price: \$20.00**
- Dry Gear T-shirts-RED / BLACK / NAVY-all sizes List Price: \$30.00 **Sale Price: \$15.00 BELOW COST!!**

### ON FIELD CLOTHING

- Umpire Shirts Black-Navy-Light Blue all sizes **2 for 1** (with logo) **\$40.00** (mix & match sizes & Colours)
- Umpire Shirts-Cream with BC logo: 1-M 3-L 2-XL List Price: \$50.00 **Sale Price: \$20.00 BELOW COST!!**
- Umpire Jackets-NAVY with BC logo-all sizes List Price: \$70.00 **Sale Price: \$50.00**
- Light Jackets-pullover with pockets-All Black-BC Logo-all sizes List Price: \$65.00 **Sale Price: \$40.00**
- Running Suit (Jacket & Pants) BC logo sizes: 2-M; 1-L; 3-XL; 1-2XL List Price: \$50.00 **Sale Price: \$20.00**

### CASUAL CLOTHING

- Golf Shirts Light Blue(2-L; 1-XL; 2-2XL only) with small BC logo Regular \$40.00 **Sale Price: 20.00**

### EQUIPMENT BAGS

- Large Bag with Wheelt-Navy Regular \$85 **Sale Price: 50.00 (last one)**
- Pro Image Equipment Bag 24 x 14 x 15 Regular \$40.00 **Sale Price: \$25.00**

*Because of the limited nature of the above specials, they are available only by telephone order to: 604-594-6911 or in person at 6663 Stoney Crescent, Delta (please phone for an appointment)*