



**2021 BCBUA Award Winners**

# Howard Chapman Sr Umpire of the Year



Awarded annually to the BCBUA member who is deemed to have had the most outstanding year of umpiring overall culminating in his/her selection to work in a Provincial, Canadian, or International tournament, and having been so selected brings honour to the BCBUA by his/her performance.

## Scott Eckardt



*"Scott consistently rates as one of top umpires in Canada. Recently, he attended T12 and earned his first International selection. COVID cancelled that tournament but expect another opportunity for Scott soon. However, as strong as he is on field, it might take a backseat to his commitment to umpire development. He can be constantly found at the park supporting young umpires in an effort to improve their game. In addition to allocating for the Greater Victoria area, Scott is BCBUA 's Vice President, serving as the liaison with Baseball BC on a review of the Provincial Supervisor ."*

# George Connelly Award – Builder's Award



Awarded to a person who has demonstrated a long-term commitment and dedication to the development and encouragement of young umpires at his/her local league or community level by continually partnering with and supporting the BCBUA clinic program.

## Rhonda Pauls



*"As BCBUA President, Rhonda has led a diverse and dynamic education team with a steadfast focus to umpire development. She led the creation of the new online training modules for Level I and II umpires, along with being a key contributor to the first ever and hugely successful online Level III/Super Clinic. Rhonda's efforts have had a major impact on baseball umpiring across Canada with BC seen as a leader in the field of education and mentorship."*

# **Chuck Blaikie Award – Outstanding Contribution**



Awarded to recognize a person who has given of his/her time and energy sacrificially or who has made an outstanding contribution to the betterment of the BCBUA

## John Pentland

*"John has been the saviour and the backbone to many BCBUA efforts during COVID. His unbelievable commitment and work ethic are evident in the development and delivery of the BCBUA's greatly successful online training programs. In addition to being one of the faces in our digital umpire training the past two years, John has done phenomenal work behind the scenes as a videographer and photographer. Also, John is a key member of our UIC committee."*



# **Doug Hudlin Award – Distinguished Service**



Awarded to a long-standing member of the BCBUA who has shown a consistent support of, and dedication to, the growth and development of the association through years of loyal membership and committed service.

## Les Maerov



*“Les has been a valuable and tireless leader as a member of the BCBUA executive. As our association's secretary, he brings sound logical advice and guidance to every issue. Les has represented the BCBUA in several contentious negotiations such as the Provincial Supervisor review with Baseball BC and Provincial tournament contracts between the BCBUA and our partner associations.”*

# **Richard Christie Award – Unsung Hero**



Awarded to recognize a BCBUA member who has, over a period of time, worked diligently and given sacrificially of his/her time to recruit, encourage, and improve the overall abilities of umpires in his/her local area without any specific recognition.

## **Mark Luknowsky**

*“Mark has quietly gone about his duties as UIC in the Fraser Valley and the BCBUA has reaped the benefits. He has developed a strong program that continues to develop quality umpires at all levels. His easy-going personality and commitment to continuous improvement have been a model for others to follow. Mark is always willing to assist the BCBUA in any way he can.”*



# **Abe Shapiro Award – Mentorship**



Awarded to recognize a BCBUA member who has demonstrated continued successes as a clinician, evaluator, and/or mentor to umpires in the province.

## Joe Mallinson



*"If you were looking for all the characteristics in a great mentor, look no further than Joe. He has volunteered countless hours working with younger and inexperienced umpires in an effort to enhance skills and improve their on/off field performance. When those lucky enough to have been mentored by him heed his guidance, they elevate their game maturity beyond their age. He is a consummate professional and gentleman."*

# Female Umpire of the Year



Awarded annually to the female umpire who is deemed to have had the most outstanding season of umpiring overall.



*"Victoria was a leader on the field this year. In addition to mentoring younger officials, she challenged herself to "up her game" and with the support of national level umpires, successfully worked her first Bantam PBL games. In the face of some challenging game situations, Victoria persevered and became a stronger umpire for it. Her commitment to personal growth and leadership is inspiring for other female officials. She is on the verge of the national program and with her talent, fortitude and resilience, she will be there soon."*

# **Ian Lamplugh Award - Up and Coming**



Awarded annually to an up-and-coming BCBUA member who has shown a tremendous desire to improve his/her skills through consistent hard work, dedication, and enthusiasm for umpiring and who has demonstrated a high degree of promise and talent on the field.

## Matthias Smith



*"Matthias takes umpiring seriously and looks the part of a polished umpire the moment he walks on the field. He is athletic and active on the field, working to get in the best position to see a play. He's always asking questions and striving to improve his game in any small way possible. He has excellent judgement and is learning to work himself into the best position to take a play. "*

# **Bill Murphy Award – Most Improved Umpire**



Awarded annually to the BCBUA member who is deemed to have shown the greatest improvement in his/her overall umpiring abilities.

## Craig Burt



*“Craig has had a tremendous year umpiring and we have yet to see him reach his ceiling. Craig attended Pro School and turned heads throughout with his strong mechanics and commitment to the craft. He was offered and accepted a pro contract, which ended up being delayed by COVID, however he is set to resume it this coming season. All of us look forward to watching his continuing development and growth.”*

# Junior Umpires of the Year



Awarded annually to the BCBUA member who is deemed to have shown the greatest improvement in his/her overall umpiring abilities.

# Junior Umpires

- Area 1: South Vancouver Island  
Lane Huggins
- Area 2: North Vancouver Island  
Jayden Moore
- Area 3: Lower Mainland East  
Aden Chorner
- Area 5: Lower Mainland South  
Bryce Dobbs-Cox
- Area 6: Thompson  
Austin Johansen
- Area 7: Okanagan  
Tyler Messing
- Area 9: Northern BC  
Ezra Peters

