



**3C Baseball Umpires Association** 9 Creekstone Place Port Moody, BC V3H 4L7 Editor: Jerry Tregaskis P: (604) 594-6911 F:(604) 594-6991 e-mail: trig@dccnet.com Assistant Editor:

#### e-mail: bcbua@yahoo.com

WEBSITE

www.bcbua.ca

- John Berry

Danny Huzar e-mail: danhuzar@telus.net <u>Staff Writer:</u> Sean Hardiman e-mail:heybluestaff@shaw.ca.

# President's Report

#### Table of Contents

President's Report..... 1-2 Vice Presidents Report ...... 3 Secretary's Report ......15 Area Reports ..... 4-6 Little League Report...... 6 Bylaw Change-(Proposed) ...... 7-8 Committee Reports ...... 14-15 National Assignments 2006 ......10 Beyond the Rule Book......13 BCBUA Library <<**NEW>>**.....16-22 You Make The Call ...... various Change of Address......26 

Congratulations to all our members for the many successes in 2006. We've once again provided the baseball community with some of the finest officiating. Our integrity and our work at making our own game better give us the credibility and respect that officials need.

Our membership increased slightly this year, and that is a credit to our clinicians, our area reps and especially the baseball associations and individual umpires who are committed to a high level of quality and training in BC umpiring.

Your association is about to ramp up our commitment to quality instruction by hosting a Baseball Canada Caravan early next year. Many of our top instructors will attend Caravan. They will extend the knowledge they acquire to other instructors, supervisors and evaluators, and of course to all of us who attend clinics.

BCBUA members have participated in a host of tournaments and special events this year. They range from local through provincial and national, and give us an opportunity to contribute to our sport and develop our game in a very enjoyable, often fast-paced environment.

Highlights this year included BC Summer Games, the John Main Tournament, the Fall Classic and a wide range of provincial tournaments.

Opportunity was very much the watchword for our nationally-rated umpires this year. We had an amazing 13 BC umpires assigned to work nationals this year. By all accounts, they were a credit to our province and to our Association. We also had three umpires act as supervisor or assistant supervisor at national tournaments -- another superb sign of our program's national credibility.

**Notice of Annual General Meeting** 

December 3, 2006

## Victoria Holiday Inn @ 3020 Blanshard Street

Victoria, BC

## Time: 12:00 Noon

There are many important matters to be discussed and decided at this meeting and details of these are found elsewhere in this issue. Some of these matters are critical to the future of your Association. Additionally, the positions are up for election at this meeting, are shown elsewhere in this issue.

It is critical that your voice be heard. We encourage all members to attend and take part in deciding the future course of your Association!

# All members in attendance will receive our new pin!

## **BE SURE TO ATTEND**

# SuperClinic 2007

Douglas College New Westminster February 24 & 25, 2007 Guest Instructor: Dick Runchey See page 7 for details on Dick Check www.bcbua.ca For updates on the clinic

# Board of Directors OFFICERS AREA DIRECTORS

#### PRESIDENT

John Berry Tel:(604)299-2532 Fax:(604)666-7235 e-mail: theberrys@shaw.ca

#### VICE-PRESIDENT

Steve Boutang Tel:(250)869-9345 e-mail: sboutang@silk.net

#### SECRETARY

Danny Huzar Tel:(604)469-9860 Fax:(604)469-1919 e-mail: danhuzar@telus.net

#### TREASURER

Richard Christie Tel:(604)535-9835 Fax:(604)535-9853 e-mail: rgc@uniserve.com

#### PAST PRESIDENT

Chuck Blaikie Tel:(250)479-8670 e-mail: jcblaikie@shaw.ca

PROVINCIAL SUPERVISOR Howard Chapman Tel:(604)205-0044

# President's Report

#### - Continued from Page 1

There have been changes at Baseball BC, with democratic reform that means its board is now elected by its members. Your Association is one of those members. I believe strongly that Baseball BC needs to include all parts of our sport. We will really benefit as umpires if the different associations are unified on common issues, and can work together on things like an effective, unified province-wide approach to discipline.

We hope to see as many of you as possible at our Annual General Meeting in Victoria December 3. If you can't make it, please talk to a member of the board or anyone else who will attend, and ask them to raise any concerns you want addressed.

Finally, as we get into our off-season, let's think about how we can attract more people to the experience of officiating. For many, it is an opportunity to stay or grow more connected to the sport we love. We're a bit short of umpires in some areas, especially for higher-level baseball where officials need to be well-qualified and capable. The positive side of that is that there are great oipportunities for umpires of all ages to develop their game and get opportunities to advance accordingly.

## BCBUA LIBRARY

Through the diligent work of Danny Huzar and Jerry Tregaskis, and with a generous grant from the Gaming Commission, BCBUA has put together a library of reference, instructional and general interest materials which will be loaned out to members to assist in their development. See pages 1 -22 for more details.

**NEW - NEW - NEW** 

# You MAKE THE CALL #1

**Play:** R1 & R3, no outs. Pitcher steps off and fakes to 1st, before wheeling around to attempt a pickoff On R3 at third base. The throw gets by the 3rd baseman and goes into the dugout. Is that a legal move? Place the runners. *Answer on back page* 

# Positions for Election at this Year's AGM

The following Executive positions are up for election at this year's Annual General Meeting:

Vice-president Secretary <u>Area Directors:</u> Vancouver Island - North Lower Mainland - West Thompson Okanagan Okanagan South Kootenays

#### AREA 1-Vancouver Island South Chet Masse

Tel:(250)474-3582 Fax:(250)474-3592 e-mail: cbmasse@island.net

Assistant: Eric Rasmussen Tel: (250)592-7297 e-mail: ericasmussen@telus.net

AREA 2-Vancouver Island North Ed Berkenstock Tel:(250)898-8877 Fax:(250)334-1535 e-mail:edandpenny@shaw.ca

Assistant: Louis Gravel Tel:(250)338-4032 Fax: e-mail: goalie\_3535@hotmail.com

#### **AREA 3-Lower Mainland East**

Eddy Lang Tel:(604)936-2484 e-mail: elang@vsb.bc.ca

Assistant: Robert Allan Tel:(604)476-9053 e-mail: rob.allan@canada.com

#### AREA 4-Lower Mainland West

Rob Grey Tel:(604)925-4579 Fax:(604)925-9057 e-mail:robmoe@telus.net

Assistant: Don Hass Tel: (604)241-1350 e-mail: thedonald@shaw.ca

#### AREA 5-Lower Mainland South

Jerry Tregaskis Tel:(604)594-6911 Fax:(604)594-6991 e-mail: trig@dccnet.com

Assistant: Arnie Coones Tel:(604)535-5528 Fax:(604)535-5419 e-mail: arnieedwin@shaw.ca

Assistant: John Pentland Tel:(604)940-0850 Fax:(604)535-5419 e-mail: pentlandfamily@telus.net

#### AREA 6-Thompson-Okanagan

Brian Cargnelli Tel:(250) 378-6448 email: bcargnel@telus.net

Assistant: Matt Lowndes Tel: (250) 314-1944 email: lowndesm1@hotmail.com

#### AREA 7-Okanagan South Vacant

Assistant:Doug Weaving Tel:(250)558-0632 e-mail: cdog@shaw.ca

#### AREA 8-Kootenays

Bill MacMillan Tel:(250)368-9892 Fax:(250)364-0567 e-mail: wpmac@shaw.ca

Assistant: Don Daloise

Tel: (250)426-4901

e-mail dldaloise@shaw.ca

#### AREA 9-Northern B.C.

Adolph Jede Tel: (250)992-7505 e-mail: ajede@goldcity.net

Assistant: Andre Jean Tel:(250)798-2417 Fax:(250)798-2417 e-mail: a\_jean@telus.net

# VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your hard work this summer in umpiring the many, many baseball games that take place in the various communities in this great province. We were truly fortunate to have played host to the National Peewee Championships (Victoria) where BC was able to send 6 of our umpires, and 2 supervisors to work at. Our province sent 13 umpires and 3 supervisors to various National Championships this year - our highest total ever. And for the first time ever, we were able to send a female umpire to a National tournament. Leisha Blais from Penticton did a fine job in Grande Prairie Alberta. Our goal is to be able to send a female umpire to a National each year, and hopefully several to a tournament we are scheduled to host in 2008. Further, I congratulate all of you who were selected to work at the various Provincial Championships around BC. You have all done our association proud.

I would like to congratulate our newest Life Members. Les Lorenz, a longtime umpire in the Campbell River district who was honoured at our SuperClinic in Nanaimo in February. Chuck Blaikie, our current Past President, and member of the BCBUA Board of Directors since the mid 70's. (Geez, I had no idea how old Chuck really was!!!). Chuck served as President in 2002 and 2003 and has contributed to his local Victoria organization in countless other ways. And Jerry Tregaskis. Jerry has also served as President, Secretary and currently as an Area Rep, and has held many other titles within our organization, not the least of which is Editor of this wonderful newsletter Hey Blue! for about 15 years. Jerry's contributions to our organization have been outstanding to say the least.

Finally, I would like to invite you all to attend the AGM in Victoria December 3. It is not often that we venture outside of the Lower Mainland to hold our meetings. It is definitely an increased cost to the association as many of the executive members reside in the Vancouver area and are now incurring travelling costs as a result. However, I maintain that it is imperative for our organization to continue to hold meetings, SuperClinics, and offer other opportunities to various areas so that we can truly be a provincial organization. So don't disappoint. We say it each year...come out to voice your opinion, listen to what we plan, or volunteer to run for a position on our board.

Having said that, I also ask that you come out to vote for your next Board of Directors, of which I am hoping to continue serving on. My term is coming to an end and I would very much like to continue the work I have been doing as the newly appointed Education Chair, serving on the SuperClinic committee, and serving our members to the best of my ability. You can read more about our plans in other sections of this newsletter. I look forward to seeing you in Victoria!

# SuperClinic 2007 SuperClinic

# February 24 + 25. 2007

# **Douglas College, New Westminster**

As mentioned in the Education Committee report, the focus on Education in this province will become much different than in years past. This philosophy continues to the Superclinic program. In 2003 our board made a decision to rotate Superclinic around the province while putting a moratorium on holding Advanced level 3 clinics elsewhere. We have completed this rotation and while it was a success, it was also a failure. While we increased the number of participants at Superclinic and brought in some really big name instructors, we failed to produce timely high level education to all of our level 3 members who were not able to attend the clinic in their region. Even when the clinic was in their region, it sometimes caused a great deal of expense to be incurred to travel there.

As a result, the Education committee has outlined plans to hold more than 1 Superclinic each year in various areas of the province so long as we can financially sustain it. i.e...we need to have the numbers to support it. As well, Advanced clinics (the same as Superclinic, but without the big name guest instructors) will be made available again to regions whose numbers justify it. In other words, we are trying to make Advanced level education available to more umpires around the province.

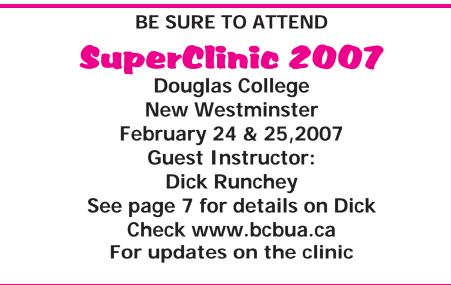
For this year's Superclinic, we must make some minor changes. The changes are partly necessitated by the fact that we received less grant money than in previous years. As a result, we are not able to bring in a Major League Baseball umpire (like Jim Joyce in 2006) whose appearance fee is not agreeable with our budget. Further, MLB umpires are required to report to Spring Training in mid February. Our dates were not flexible in order to secure the popular Douglas College New Westminster location that we have had so many successful ventures at before. However, the clinic instruction will not suffer. It will probably improve actually. We have secured the services of Richard (Dick) Runchey. Dick is a highly regarded Supervisor for the International Baseball Federation (IBAF) and has supervised World Championships for many years around the globe. He has umpired in the Big Leagues briefly in the early 80's, and worked in the Olympics. He is an instructor and supervisor of umpires at the NCAA Division 1 level. I can say that while you may not recognize Dick's name as you would a Jim Joyce, the quality of his resume and experiences speaks volumes about his ability as an instructor of baseball umpiring. Several of our Nationally rated umpires have come across Dick at various International tournaments and have spoken very highly about his down to earth style.

We will also be attempting to secure the services of a Baseball Canada supervisor to assist the many high quality provincial instructors who will be on hand this year.

Finally, the clinic content will be improved. The clinic is still open to anyone who wants to attend. The content of the sessions will be tailored to the skill level of the umpire more than ever. New sessions will be added, sessions will be shorter, and the old favourites will be tweaked to make them even more enjoyable.

The clinic cost and the rest of the particulars have not been finalized, but I encourage you to plan on attending. Check our website regularly for updates. It is sure to be a rewarding experience.

Steve Boutang – Superclinic Committee



## REPORT - AREA 1 Vancouver Island South

We had a very exciting and busy year in Area 1.

The highlight event was that Victoria hosted the Pee Wee AAA National Championships August 24-27. Every province sent a Level 4 umpire and BC was able to send 6 Level 4 umpires. The BC umpires measured up very well against the rest of the country and in all, the officiating was excellent. The parks were in fantastic shape and the weather was perfect. A great baseball weekend!

Our membership numbers remain stable in Area 1. Unfortunately no one contacted me this year to get evaluated (even informally). This is disappointing as everyone can use a critique of his/her game and I know the majority of the umpires out there have never received one. Please give me a call or email if you want to be evaluated.

The BCBUA Annual General Meeting will be in Victoria this year. At the AGM, you will be able to meet the whole executive of the BCBUA as well as other umpires from around the province. You will also be able to hear many of the important issues that BCBUA has been dealing with in the recent past and must deal with in the upcoming months. Please make an effort to attend, especially if you have never been to one before.

Have a great Fall season!

-Eric Rasmussen, Area Director

## REPORT - AREA 2 Vancouver Island North

I would like to begin by introducing myself, Ed Berkenstock, as the new Area 2 Director. I have taken the position over from Eric Toneff who has stepped aside due to other personal obligations. Eric will continue to assist me in Area Two as he is available.

I would like to thank Eric for all of his past efforts and commitment to improve Area 2.

I am hoping that you all had a positive year in umpiring and are looking forward to returning in 2007. Our umpires increased this year to a total of 82. However, we are looking for the number of Senior umpires in particular to increase, so if you know anyone who may be suitable, please encourage them to come out to a clinic. This would be a great way for a parent and child to spend quality time together.

We held three, level one and two clinics in the North Island in 2006. One each in Parksville, Courtenay and Campbell River. Thanks goes out to Eric Toneff, Glen Sebelius, Rod Bailey, Rob Garneau, Dave Watson and all the organizers on a job well done.

I am hoping to increase participation in 2007, by adding two more clinics in both Port Alberni and Port McNeill.

The Parksville Royals held their annual Pro Nine Tournament on the May24th long weekend this year with the one big improvement being the weather. Most of the umpires were from the Island. Four umpires represented Area 2. They were Eric Toneff, Louis Gravel, Allen Buchannon and myself. This is a great tournament that I hope you are all able to experience at some time.

The Campbell River Association hosted the Pee Wee AA Provincial Championships. It was a well run tournament with Earl Kelly as the Tournament Director and Ray Wearing as BC Minor Baseball Director. I was impressed by the condition of the fields and the all round organization of the tournament. Great job, Campbell River!

The Annual General Meeting is being hosted this year in Victoria so it should be easier for more of the Area 2, BCBUA membership to attend. The Pro Image Junior Umpire of the Year for Area 2 has already been selected and will be announced during the AGM in December. I strongly encourage as many of you to attend as possible to come out and select an Area Director. Organize your car pools early and take advantage of it being on the Island. I'd love to see you there.

Remember to start your plans now to attend Super Clinic 2007 in Vancouver, February 24 & 25.

## REPORT - AREA 3 Lower Mainland-East

We have been very fortunate this summer with great baseball weather. I also had the opportunity to work with Danny Huzar with evaluation of a number of our junior umpire's. It was a pleasure to see many of the younger umpire's working their games, and doing great work. I have recently become an evaluator, and I am planning on assisting many of our younger umpire's during next baseball season.

This year, I have also come to the conclusion that I wish to step down as the area-rep for the lower mainland east and I hope that someone will fill in and become the new area rep. If you are interested in becoming the area rep, could you please contact me at: eddy\_umpire@yahoo.ca

The Lower Mainland East area is well oiled and I have the names of all the persons responsible for each area. Anyone who decides to take on this job will have an easier time than I did when I first arrived. This is an important position and I hope that someone out there will step up to the plate and take a crack at organizing our eastern shores. I am available for consultation concerning this position.

I also with to thank everyone on the board for this help and assistance during my term as your area rep. I could not have been successful with the help of Danny and Jerry. They have been super. I also wish to thank Howard for his help during the season.

I also wish to thank each and every umpire whom I have had the pleasure of working with this past season. I have learned so much, and look forward to next year.

I hope to see many people at our Super Clinic in 2007. I am dissappointed that Danny Huzar is no longer part of organizing our super clinic in 2007. Danny has done so much for this organization over the past few years, and I for one am going to miss his input. Thank you Danny.

To everyone else, have yourselves a great Fall season, stay healthy, and I look forward to working with you in 2007.

Eddy Lang, Area Director

## **REPORT - AREA 4** Lower Mainland-West

I trust that everybody had a great 2006 Season!

In Lower Mainland West, the BC Little League Championships were played in North Vancouver also in Richmond there was a Pee wee tournament and am told both were successful!

I would like to encourage all BCBUA Umpires to apply to umpire the many different Provincial Tournament around the Province in 2007.

For 2007, I would like to add more Clinics for Lower Mainland West and offer a weekly umpire clinic that would go 4-6 weeks. This type of clinic has worked very well in other parts of the Lower Mainland!

If you have any questions please email me anytime at robmoe@telus.net!

I look forward to seeing all of you in 2007!

Have a great off season!!

#### Rob Grey, Area Director



Douglas College New Westminster February 24 & 25,2007 Guest Instructor:

#### Dick Runchey

See page 7 for details on Dick Check www.bcbua.ca For updates on the clinic

# You Make The Call #2

**Play:** R1, no outs. Batter hits a ground ball to shortstop who flips it to F4 for the forceout at 2nd base, well before R1 arrives at the bag. R1 makes no attempt to slide or get out of the way of the throw. F4 successfully completes the throw to F3, but not in time to retire the batter. What is your call? Is there interference?

Answer on back page

## **REPORT - AREA 5** Lower Mainland-South

The season has just about ended! The clinic season was very successful for our area, which saw 9 clinics held, many of them in the new, multi-night format, resulting in 262 members. I strongly encourage all you UIC's to consider going to the multi-night format for your clinic next year. It allows for attendance by those who might not be able to go to a one-day weekend clinic and allows for more in-depth instruction and on-field mechanics.

This season saw Area 5 hosting two Provincials, Bantam A (Newton), Mosquito AAA (North Delta), as well as the prestigious John Maine Pee Wee Tournament (North Delta & Newton). In addition, we hosted the Fall Classic in North Delta, White Rock and Langley. A very successful season!!

The Fall Classic is the perfect opportunity to be evaluated for your level 3 and is a great showcase for young talent to be identified, both players and umpires. Next year, I encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity and come out and learn from working with other umpires from around the province. It is very much like working in a Provincial and is a great opportunity to meet umpires from other areas.

I hope you all had a good season and I <u>strongly encourage you to attend</u> the AGM in Victoria December 3 as there are some <u>very critical amendments</u> to our Constitution & Bylaws being proposed which could have a substantial effect on how your Association is run in the future.

Jerry Tregaskis, Area Director

## REPORT - AREA 6 -Thompson-Okanagan

The umpires of this area had a very busy Spring and Summer and now that we are into fall, the season still has not ended. Several of our area umpires umpired in the Canadian National College Championships held in Kamloops in May. Congratulations to Matt Lowndes, Rob Kloster (and I guess me) for their outstanding work during this tournament. In fact Rob Kloster was assigned the Gold Medal Championship game on the plate for the second straight year. Well done Rob. Other umpires that worked the college level during the regular season from this zone were Mike Broadway, Kris Hartley, Chris Connelly and a great new addition to real baseball (not that softball variety she has been doing) Kelly Hunter. Kelly has umpired at the Olympics a couple of years back for Softball Canada and she has now stepped across the aisle and taken up baseball. She along with all the others I have mentioned have done a great job this year and I want to commend all of them for their high level of achievement.

We also hosted the BC Summer Games and the Midget AAA Provincial Championships in Kamloops again this year. Congratulations to Rob Kloster, Matt Lowndes, Kris Hartley and Chris Connelly for working the Summer Games. Matt and Chris also worked the Midget AAA again this year and from all reports did an excellent job. Special kudos goes out to Chris Connelly for being assigned the Gold Medal game on the plate for the Summer Games. Well done Chris. I was fortunate to travel to Prince George this year to work the Sr. Men's Provincials and had a great time up there, other than my car breaking down. But that is another story...

We held 3 clinics this year in this zone (Kamloops and Revelstoke), including a new clinic in Salmon Arm. Dennis Stockford is doing a great job at recruiting people there and this is a hot bed of new umpiring activity. I know that with all of the young officials coming out of this program over the next few years, we will see some great talent emerge for the Junior, Senior and College levels. Numbers at the clinics were up slightly even though the number of players in this zone has decreased. This is a really positive sign and one that I hope to build on next year.

As of the writing of this report I have been assigned the task of developing Instructors and Supervisor/Evaluators workshops for the association. We need to train more people to instruct at our clinics and to have more people available to evaluate. Currently I am the only person that is qualified to evaluate a Level 3 in the interior and even though I'm a big guy, even I can't stretch myself that thin. With properly trained people the level of officiating has to go up. If you are interested in becoming an instructor or evaluator, get in touch with me and I will give you further information.

Training of officials is always a good thing. If you have not been to an advanced clinic or a Superclinic in the last couple of years, I encourage you to do so now. Elsewhere in this edition of Hey Blue you can find information about these two clinics. You get really high level instruction from some of the best instructors in Canada. I was fortunate to travel to Moose Jaw last March to participate in the National Caravan to train instructors in Baseball Umpire Development Program. What I learned there has already been implemented in BC and I know now that we truly have some of the best instructors there are in Canada teaching in BC. So there is no reason not to get you to one of the advanced clinics. You will learn advanced ideas, meet new and exciting people that share your love of officiating and have the chance to rub shoulders with some of Canada's best umpires. You might even get to win a door prize from Pro-Image.



## REPORT - AREA 8 -The Kootenays

Well, an interesting summer in the Kootenays. We hosted several Provincial Tournaments this year and it was quite an experience.

Creston hosted the Babe Ruth 11 year old Provincials and umpires from Creston, Invermere and Trail worked the tournament with no significant problems.

At the same time Trail was hosting the North Idaho American Legion District Tournament. Umpires from Trail, Cranbrook and Lewiston, Idaho worked this tournament. Unfortunately two of the scheduled umpires could not make it and that made it hard on the four that were left. Three games a day (9 innings each) in 40 degree heat for each umpire and the added bonus of the river moths for the night game.

If you have never seen them it is an incredible sight. These moths are attracted by the lights and there are so many of the that the outfielders have trouble seeing the ball, you can't breathe with your mouth open or you get extra protein and they are all over your uniform. The only good thing is they don't bite they are just there. On the last game the Umpires wore mosquito nets and that helped a lot. We were the envy of everyone there that night.

Trail also hosted the 13 yr, 14 yr. and 15 year old Babe Ruth Provincials the week before. There were only a total of eight teams so it was like a normal tournament. Trail, Grand Forks and Castlegar umpires worked this one. Kudos and much thanks to the teams from the East Kootenays and Nanaimo who showed up and to all the rest that didn't send teams....SHAME ON YOU!

The Annual General Meeting is being held in Victoria this year. I understand that it is a long way to go but some important things will be dealt with this year and it would behoove you to come if you can. Hope to see you there.

**BE SURE TO ATTEND** 

#### Bill MacMillan, Area Director

**SuperClinic** 2007 Douglas College New Westminster February 24 & 25,2007 Guest Instructor: Dick Runchey See page 7 for details on Dick Check www.bcbua.ca For updates on the clinic

## REPORT - AREA 9 Northern BC

This past year, this area held two clinics in Prince George. The first was a two day affair, Level 1, 2 & 3 with Brian Cargnelli as the lead instructor, assisted by Adolph Jede. Special thanks to Lance Brommeland for the great job organizing and advertising. A total of twenty eight people participated – up substantially from previous years. Jim Sagert conducted a half-day, Level 1 clinic for new umpires and a those who just wanted carding for the year in Prince George. 16 attended this one. Adolph Jede and Jim Sagert also conducted a clinic in Quesnel where 7 people attended.

This zone also hosted the Senior Men's Provincial championships in a brand new ball park – according to all, a facility second to none in the Province. We look forward to hosting many more events here in the future. Terry Shaw very ably represented our zone as an umpire at this tournament. We also hosted the 13 – 14 year old Junior Provincials as well. Umpires in the area that participated included, Adolph Jede, Lance Brommelund, Andre Jean, Jim Swanson, Rainer Lippman, Dan Zacharuk, John Castle, Matt McMann, Sean Hardman and Terry Shaw. Thanks a lot guys for your great work.

Our zone also sent a number of umpires to various tournaments. Adolph Jede and Lance Brommelund worked the Summer Games in Kamloops July 28 – 30. Adolph and Andre Jean also worked the Midget AAA Provincial in Kamloops August 3 – 6 with Andre doing the Gold Medal game behind the plate. Congratulations, Andre for your great work. Andre also worked the PeeWee AAA Provincial in Ridge Meadows August 9 – 13. September 15 – 17, Andre and Adolph worked the Fall Classic in Lower Mainland.

Special recognition must go to Andre Jean of Terrace, B. C... Given that he lives in the North West corner of the Province, he travels 7 hours just to get to Prince George, another 4  $V_2$  hours to Kamloops and 8 hours from Prince George to Vancouver. Of all the umpires in the Province, Andre has, I'm sure, logged more miles on his car to travel to and from tournaments than any other 2 –3 umpires combined did this past year. The Association and this Zone surely needs to recognize Andre's dedication and commitment to all our Provincial programs this past year. Thanks a lot Andre.

In summary our overall numbers in the Zone have increased dramatically from 24 to 52 carded umpires this past year. We presently have 6 level three umpires and with the mentoring program going on with new officials in Prince George, we hope to improve on this even more next year.

We would strongly encourage anyone from this Zone who will be in Victoria to attend the BCBUA Annual General Meeting Sunday December 3. We would also strongly encourage anyone from the Zone who wishes to upgrade next year to a Level 3 or higher to seriously consider attending the Super Clinic in New Westminster. Guest instructors are always well worth the effort and cost to take advantage of. Check if your local Minor Baseball Association may pick up part of the costs for younger officials. Check with Adolph or Jim Sagert to arrange possible car-pooling and watch for dates and application forms in this issue of Hey Blue.

# Our Own Troy Carmont works the Plate at the Little League World Series

Courtesy - Sports Illustrated - Aug 27/06

Troy Carmont leaned back on a cushy couch in the umpires' lounge and relaxed. There was no pressure, with time to spare before he was scheduled to call balls and strikes at the title game of the Little League World Series. "I'm representing 15 other guys," Carmont said, referring to the 16-person crew for the tournament. "The butterflies are there when you start the game, and then it goes away." It's not just the kids in the spotlight in South Williamsport.

The Little League World Series is a big deal for umpires, too. Carmont will have to wait at least one more day to crouch down behind the plate. Sunday's championship contest between Columbus, Ga., and Kawaguchi City, Japan, was postponed by rain and rescheduled for 8 p.m. EDT Monday. It's the first time the title game will be played on a Monday night, and the latest start time for a game played by middle school-age boys. The title game has been rescheduled once before, in 1990, when rain forced San-Hua, Chinese Taipei, and Shippensburg, Pa., to play on a Sunday, one day late. Chinese Taipei won 9-0. As with many of the players, the World Series is a once-in-a-lifetime experience for umpires. According to the rules, umpires can only work one World Series. "It's so great," said umpire Brian Murphy of Leesburg, Va. "Just to watch the talent from all over the world." Umpires volunteer to wear the blue uniforms and must pay their own travel expenses. That can add up -- one umpire, Mei Yan Lo, took a break from her job as a property officer in Hong Kong. Another, Stephen Guerrero, flew in from Guam, where he is a financial program supervisor.

Prospective World Series umpires get scrutinized at regional tournaments for their shot at South Williamsport. It can be pretty competitive, and umpires who qualify must "wait their turn," said umpire-in-chief Andy Konyar. Most umpires start working local games, which may attract several dozen parents, before moving to bigger district, state and regional tournaments. That's still a far cry from Lamade Stadium, where more than 20,000 people can pack the stands and the grassy hill overlooking the outfield, not to mention the national TV exposure. "It's one thing to call a ballgame with 3,000 or 4,000 people in the stands," said Frank Policano, who helps supervise the World Series crews. "We've run into some umps where it gets near the end and it gets a little tense." It was far from tense in the umpires' lounge as the crew waited for word on whether Sunday's title game would be postponed.

Carmont, a 25-year veteran from Surrey, British Columbia, joined other umpires joking around in the air-conditioned room lined with couches. Left-field line umpire Eric Zimmerman, of Glendale, Ariz. and his counterpart in right, Tom Cahill, cracked jokes and passed out small chocolate bars. Cahill said fellow umpires were jealous because Carmont would draw attention manning the relatively stationary job as homeplate umpire. "Eric and I have the lines. We have acreage to cover!" yelled Cahill, of St. Michael, Minn. "And he doesn't have to run, either!"

Editor's note-Congratulations Troy!! A highlight in your career.



## Little League Umpires Report

This year was a very successful one for both umpires and our leagues on the field. In early March we hosted our Annual Umpire Super clinic in Surrey. This is an Intermediate

Level Clinic, we have an average of 50 students to this event annually. This was a mandatory clinic for umpires to attend to be eligible to umpire the Canadian Championships in Whalley.

Dan McLaren from Langley was selected to umpire the 13/14 Canadian Championships in Lethbridge Alberta and he represented us well as one of the crew chiefs for the tournament.

Whalley Little League did a fantastic job of hosting the 11/12 year old Canadian Championships this year, Whalley defended their title and went on to represent Canada at the World Series in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. A special thanks to all the umpires who volunteered and did a tremendous job on the field.

We also had one other significant assignment for Troy Carmont of Surrey. He was selected to represent Canada as the Umpire from this region. Troy had a tremendous tournament and became only the second Umpire to be selected to work the plate for the world championship game between Japan and Georgia. From all reports he was an unanimous selection to work this game. Well done Troy!!

My special thanks to all of those umpires who volunteered their services for all the post season tournaments.

Enjoy the off season, Looking forward to next year!! Troy Carmont, PUC

## ATTEND THE AGM IN VICTORIA DECEMBER 3, 2006

# Proposed Bylaw Change - MAIL IN BALLOTING

Editor's Note: The proposed motion below will be put forward to the AGM by Bill MacMillan. It was previously proposed to the Board of Directors, but they did not approve it, nor does it bear their recommendation. The matter has been referred to a newly created "Bylaw Committee", however Mr. MacMillan, does not wish to wait for that committee to complete it's review, so wishes to present it from the floor at the AGM.

#### BYLAW CHANGES RE: MAIL IN VOTING

#### Remove section 25 which says:

- 25. (1) A member in good standing at a meeting of members is entitled to 1 vote.
  - (2) Voting is by show of hands.
  - (3) Voting by proxy is not permitted.

#### And replace it with:

25.

- .1 A member in good standing is entitled to one vote.
- (a) A member must be present at the meeting to vote on all business except the election of Area Representatives as set out below.
- (b) For the election of Area Representatives only, each member may vote using a mail-in ballot.
- .2 A Returning Officer (RO) for the election of Directors shall be appointed by the BCBUA Board of Directors
- (a) A mail in ballot shall be received by the appointed RO by the announced closing date for voting by mail, if the vote is to be counted.
- (b) The procedure for mail-in voting shall be:
  - i) Appoint RO and notify membership of appointment.
  - ii) Nominator (must be a member) shall send accepted nominations for the positions available to the RO by the announced date.
  - iii) RO advises membership of all nominees and provides each member with an appropriate ballot.
  - iv) Members shall send each ballot, individually sealed, and pursuant to instructions provided by the RO to the RO by the announced date.
  - v) RO collects and stores all mail-in ballots and delivers them, unopened, to the meeting.
  - vi) RO opens and counts mail-in ballots at the meeting (under the supervision of scrutinizers appointed by the membership), and announces the results.
- .3 Members may vote in the election of Directors for the positions of:

President Vice-President Secretary Treasurer Area Representative (from their own Area only)

(a) Members may not vote for Area Representatives from Areas other than that area in which the member resides.

.4 (a) Voting at the meeting shall be by a show of hands except for election of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer which shall be by hidden ballot.

(b) Voting for the election of Area Representatives shall be by mail in ballot only except for the election of the Area Representative (s) from the area in which the AGM is held. The voting for the election of the Area Representative(s) from the Area in which the AGM is held shall be by a secret ballot only at the AGM and not by mail in ballot.

(c) For the purpose of electing Area Representatives mail in balloting shall not apply to any of the Lower Mainland Areas (areas 3, 4 and 5) when the AGM is held in any of the Lower Mainland Ares (areas 3, 4 and 5).

- .5 Voting by proxy is not permitted.
- .6 Ballots not presented in the manner outlined are deemed to be spoiled ballots and shall not be counted.
- .7 Mail in balloting shall take place as follows:
  - (a) for Area Representatives from (set out areas) in 2008 and every second year thereafter; and (b) for Area Representatives from (set out areas) in 2009 and every second year thereafter.

# SuperClinic Guest Instructor-Dick Runchey

Amateur Baseball Umpires' Association Dick Runchey, ABUA's first president and a member of its 2002 class of Hall of Fame inductees, became the majority shareholder in ABUA May 1, 2004, and will assume the position of chairman of the board.

"This is a dream come true," said Runchey, a member of the International Baseball Federation umpire subcommittee. "I knew when we formed ABUA in 1998 that I wanted to become the majority owner at some point. The timing is perfect for me to do this right now and I couldn't be happier."

For over 30 years, Runchey worked his way up through the professional and amateur ranks and built a very impressive resume. It took him only nine years from the time he attended the AI Somers Umpire School in 1973 to work his first College World Series game. As a rookie CWS umpire in 1982, Runch was awarded the first of four championship-game plate assignments (more than any other umpire in the modern era). In addition to the 1982 CWS, he also worked the prestigious event in 1983, 1990, 1994 and 1998. Dick worked 19 NCAA Division I Regionals from 1980-1998, and 12 Big Ten and three Mid-American Conference Tournaments.

Dick's plum international assignment was the 1992 Olympic Summer Games in Barcelona. The Plymouth, MI, native also worked the 1998 World Championships in Italy and the 1997 Pan American Games in Indianapolis.

Off the field, Dick has given of himself to countless ABUA and NCAA initiatives. In addition to his service as ABUA's president for its first three years (1998-2000), he was an NCAA Baseball Regional Umpire Evaluator and committee member for nine years. Considered one of the best clinicians in the country, Dick is one of the ABUA's top teachers at camps and clinics around the country.

# **MAIL IN BALLOTING-Some Comments**

#### -Bill MacMillan

Members of the BC Baseball Umpires Association welcome to 2006.

During the Annual General Meeting in November 2003 a resolution was tabled to allow the implementation of Mail in Balloting for the election of Area Representatives. There was much discussion about both the substance of the resolution and the procedure involved to bring it to the floor. Any change in the Bylaws of the Association must be done by a special resolution voted on and passed by a 75% majority of those present at the AGM. In order for a special resolution to even be considered by the AGM it must be published at least 14 days prior to the AGM. This was not done and therefore no motions or votes relating to this special resolution have any validity. The fault for this lies squarely on my shoulders as I failed to get the proper notice into the Hey Blue! As one of the authors of this special resolution it was clearly my responsibility to ensure the notice was published and I did not. I offer my apologies to all who supported it and to the membership in general.

While the resolution itself was not valid the discussion and comments were. I would like to give a brief overview of the issue for those that were not in attendance and solicit comments from any who wish it.

The theory behind this issue is that although we are a provincial organization very few members outside the Lower Mainland get to vote in the selection of our leadership. We propose that each member gets to vote for the election of their own Area Representative by the use of a Mail in Ballot. This means that each Area Representative will be elected by the members of their area only. For instance, the AR for the Kootenays would be elected by members who live in the Kootenays and not by members from Langley or Burnaby and vice versa. The Mail in Balloting would apply to the election of Area Representatives only. The Table Officers (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer) would still be elected at the AGM by the members present.

The logistics of this process are very simple. We use the Hey Blue! to call for nominations and to send out ballots to the members. The members fill out the nominations or the ballots and mail them into a Returning Officer(RO) (appointed by the Board). The RO then brings the ballots (unopened) to the AGM where they are counted by the RO under the supervision of scrutinizers from the floor and the results are announced. This method is currently in use by many Provincial and National organizations and is fair and equitable. The cost to the Association is minimal as the Hey Blue! is mailed anyways.

During the discussion several good points were raised . Some of these points were:

- how can we run the risk of one or more teenagers being elected to the BOD
- · what do we do about nominations from the floor
- why would Lower Mainland members want to allow up country people to elect members of the BOD when they don't understand the issues

Let's look at these points:

1. The majority of our members are under the age of 16 years so we must allow them to vote or we would not be a democratic organization. You can't expect a member to pay and not be allowed to vote. If we allow teenagers to vote then, yes, there is a chance that one will be elected. It is up to the BOD to educate our members about the duties and responsibilities of an Area Rep, if a teen still wants to run and is elected who is to say that they could not do a better job than some of our previous Area Reps? But is it likely that one would be elected?

2. In order for Mail in Balloting to have any validity (and be approved by the Registrar of the Societies Act) there can be no nominations for Area Rep from the floor. All the nominations must be in to the RO by a published cut off date so as to be included on the ballot. This has the added benefit of no more spur of the moment politicking or elections at the AGM. All nominations and elections would then be well thought out choices.

3. This comment, although it might seem inflammatory, is very nearly a direct quote of a question asked by a member at the AGM and endorsed by a member of the BOD. There are a couple of ways to answer this question. The first is to say that in a democracy no one gets to vote for a local representative other than the local voters. I cannot vote for the MP from Winnipeg nor do I want the voters from Victoria choosing my MLA. As for understanding issues, it is presumptuous to believe that I know more than you. Perhaps I just have more information about an issue than you. If that is the case, it is incumbent upon me to educate you in the issues not remove from you the right to choose.

This is a capsulated view of the events and issues surrounding the attempt to alter the bylaws to allow Mail in Balloting for Area Representatives. Any subjective views expressed are my own and this article will serve as notice of my intention to present this issue at the 2006 AGM. In the issue of the Hey Blue! announcing the AGM location, time and date we will also publish the complete motion for the change of bylaws.

Since this article was written and first published in 2004 there have been two attempts to bring this to the AGM and due to circumstances and some changes this has been delayed. This year it will happen however there has been one fundamental change in the proposal. After much discussion and, sometimes heated, debate I have been convinced that some of the members come to the AGM solely to vote and visit. If we remove the vote part chances are the visit would not happen on its own. To facilitate those members the proposal has been amended to allow the members from the Area that is hosting the AGM to elect their own Area Rep by a hidden ballot at the AGM and to allow nominations from the floor for the host Area Rep instead of the Mail in Balloting the other Areas would use. For the purposes of this amendment only the Lower Mainland Areas would be considered to be hosting the AGM jointly any time the AGM is held in the Lower Mainland.

Hopefully this would encourage members to attend the AGM anytime it is held in their Area.

I hope members throughout the Province will discuss this fundamental issue amongst themselves and let us know your thoughts and opinions. Write a letter to the Hey Blue!, call your Area Rep or any member of the Board and let us know what you think.

# You MAKE THE CALL #3

**Play:** R2 and R3 with one out, batter hits base hit to outfield. R3 scores easily, but R2 is out at the plate. Batter advaces to 2nd base on the throw home. After all action stops, the pitcher comes set and throws to 1st base, appealing that the batter missed the base. The base umpire agrees and calls the batter out. Does R3's run count??



Answer on back page

# **PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP ASSIGNMENTS**

# **SENIOR - PRINCE GEORGE**

Supervisor:	Howard Chapman BURNABY	
Umpires:	Mark Bodwell	SURREY
-	Tom Brock	BURNABY
	Brian Cargnelli	MERRITT
	Ossie Chavarria	aBURNABY
	Don Hass	RICHMOND
	Terry Shaw	PRINCE GEORGE

## **JUNIOR - VICTORIA**

Supervisor:	Chet Masse	VICTORIA
Umpires:	Scott Eckardt	VICTORIA
	Louis Gravel	COURTENAY
	Rob Grey	WEST VANCOUVER
	Fabian Poulin	NANAIMO
	Don Violette	COQUITLAM

# **MIDGET AAA - KAMLOOPS**

Supervisor:	Jerry Tregaskis	DELTA
Umpires:	Chris Connelly	KITIMAT
	Adolph Jede	QUESNEL
	Matt Lowndes	KAMLOOPS
	Bobby Olszowie	ec DELTA

#### **MIDGET AA - MAPLE RIDGE** PORT MOODY

PORT MOODY

MAPLE RIDGE VANCOUVER

WHITE ROCK

Supervisor:	Danny Huzar	PORT MOC
Assistant:	Eddy Lang	PORT MOC
Umpires:	Bert Brouwer	MAPLE RID
	Les Maerov	VANCOUVE
	Tony Mazzucco	BURNABY
	Shawn Mills	LANGLEY
	Ken Raison	SURREY
	Bruce Steele	WHITE RO
	Herb VanHorne	SURREY
	Brad Woof	DELTA

# **BANTAM AAA - RUTLAND**

Supervisor:	Ted Williams	PORT MOODY
Umpires:	David Bailey	DELTA
	Stephen Bailey	DELTA
	Leisha Blais	PENTICTON
	Andrew Brock	BURNABY
	Dave Burton	<b>GRAND FORKS</b>
	Robert Gronows	ski PENTICTON
	Adolph Jede	QUESNEL
	Steffen Maxur	KELOWNA
	Kyle Williams	PORT MOODY

## **BANTAM A - NEWTON**

- Supervisor: Umpires: Brad Woof
- Andrew Knight SURREY Lisa Brown-Rooke DELTA GraemeDergousoff SURREY Bryce Kilpatrick SURREY Jack Kinstlers SURREY DELTA

## **PEEWEE AAA - MAPLE RIDGE**

Robert Allan Jeremy Bresler	MAPLE RIDGE VANCOUVER
LISA Brown-Ro	OKE DELIA
Keith Hartup	LANGLEY
Andre Jean	KITIMAT
Robert Olszow	iec DELTA
Terry Owen	NORTH VANCOUVER
Jim Train	WHITE ROCK
	Jeremy Bresler Lisa Brown-Ro Keith Hartup Andre Jean Robert Olszow Terry Owen

#### FALL CLASSIC - LOWER MAINLAND S BURNABY pman

	A3310 - L0	
Supervisors:	HowardChapma	an BURNA
-	RichardChristie	WHITE ROCK
	Danny Huzar	PORT MOODY
	Jerry Tregaskis	DELTA
Umpires:	Curt Appleby	DELTA
	Jeremy Bresler	VANCOUVER
	Bert Brouwer	MAPLE RIDGE
	Lisa Brown-Roo	oke DELTA
	Arnie Coones	WHITE ROCK
	Andre Jean	KITIMAT
	Adolph Jede	QUESNEL
	William Keegan	SURREY
	Eddy Lang	PORT MOODY
	Bill MacMillan	TRAIL
	Shawn Mills	LANGLEY
	Robert Olszowi	ec DELTA
	Terry Owen	NORTH VANCC
	Arne Pederson	SURREY
	Jim Train	WHITE ROCK

Curt Appleby	DELTA
Jeremy Bresler	VANCOUVER
Bert Brouwer	MAPLE RIDGE
Lisa Brown-Roo	oke DELTA
Arnie Coones	WHITE ROCK
Andre Jean	KITIMAT
Adolph Jede	QUESNEL
William Keegan	SURREY
Eddy Lang	PORT MOODY
Bill MacMillan	TRAIL
Shawn Mills	LANGLEY
Robert Olszowie	ec DELTA
Terry Owen	NORTH VANCOUVER
Arne Pederson	SURREY
Jim Train	WHITE ROCK
Don Violette	COQUITLAM
Kyle Williams	PORT MOODY
Brad Woof	DELTA

MERRITT

## SUMMER GAMES - KAMLOOPS

Supervisors: Brian Cargnelli Umpires:

Leisha Blais PENTICTON Lance Brommeland PRINCE GEORGE Chris Connelly KAMLOOPS Arnie Coones WHITE ROCK **KAMLOOPS** Kris Hartley Adolph Jede QUESNEL Rob Kloster **KAMLOOPS** Matt Lowndes KAMLOOPS Arne Pederson SURREY Jim Train WHITE ROCK Wray Watson DUNCAN Andrew Wrean VICTORIA

## **BABE RUTH - TRAIL**

Supervisors:	Bill Mac	millan		TRAIL
Umpires:	William	Bain	TRAIL	
	David	Brewer	<b>FRUIT</b>	/ALE
	Robert	Brewer	<b>FRUIT</b>	/ALE
	David	Leonard	TRAIL	
	David T	hompso	n TRAIL	
	Glenn	Wallace	TRAIL	
	Robert	White	CASTL	EGAR



Ray Carter (President of Baseball Canada) and Alan Lowe (Mayor of Victoria) watch the umpires work



**Richard Christie's Crew** 





The following BC Umpires were selected to work in National Championships in 2006.

#### Pee Wee (13 & under) Victoria, BC August 24-28, 2006

Chris Addison Rob Allan Dave Bisskey Richard Christie Fabian Poulin Eric Rasmussen Bill Murphy Jerry Tregaskis

Vancouver Maple Ridge Surrey White Rock Nanaimo Victoria Assistant Supervisor Assistant Supervisor

Bantam Boys (15 & under) Windsor, ON August 24-28, 2006

Chet Masse Victoria Bantam Girls (16 & under) Grande Prairie, AB August 24-28, 2006

Leisha Blais Penticton

Canada Cup (17 & under all-stars) Medicine Hat, AB August 18-21, 2006

Steve Boutang	Cranbrool
Ossie Chavarria	Burnaby

Midget (18 and under) Summerside, PE August 24-28, 2006

Fred O'Rourke Vancouver

Junior (21 & under) Guelph, ON August 24-29, 2006

Don Hass Richmond

Senior (open age group) Brandon, MB August 24-28, 2006 Mark Bodwell Surrey

#### Congratulations to you all!



Rob Allan Works the Dish



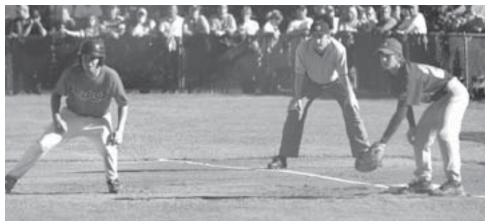
Ready for Play at Lambrick Park



Fabian Poulin's Crew



Fabian Poulin watches the action







Above: Eric Rasmussen's Crew Below: Chris Addison watches pitch

BASEBALL BASEBALL MORE PICTURES FROM THE PEE WEE NATIONALS VICTORIA 2006



**Rob Allan Explains his Call** 



Bill Murphy leads the Umpires into the Opening Ceremonies



Below - Richard Christie on the Plate



Above: Rob Allan "Punches the Runner OUT"!





**Chris Connolly Works the Plate** 



The "A" Team wait for the Managers



# Did He Go?? Photos from the 2006 Midget AAA Provincials Courtesy of Jenna Johnson Sure Shot Photos

-Kamloops



Bobby O watches for the tag



Matt Lowndes watches the pitch



Jerry Tregaskis & Andre Jean confer



Bobby O Ready for the pick-off



Adolph Jede working the bases



Andre Jean takes the Changes



Andre Jean "sells" a Safe call

# **BEYOND THE RULE BOOK**

By Danny Huzar

By Jerry Tregaskis

In the previous issue of Hey Blue I pointed out a rule that is not adequately dealt with in the Rule Book and challenged you to find others. Here is another one. This question is on our 2007 Level 3 exam. Question # 12 states "If, while the ball is alive, 2 runners occupy the same base, the lead runner is out when tagged." Is this 'True' or 'False'?

Rule # 7.03 states "Two runners may not occupy a base, but if, while the ball is alive, two runners are touching a base, the following runner shall be out when tagged. The preceding runner is entitled to the base."

Whenever you have more than 1 runner on base, you have at least 2 runners occupying a base. Obviously, rule 7.03 is intended to state that 2 runners may not occupy the same base. You may want to make that notation in your rule book. With that out of the way, is the answer to the question 'True' or 'False'? On the surface the answer appears to be 'True'. If you do not dig any deeper you would conclude that this is the case in all situations. The rule book offers no interpretations, examples or ancillary explanations. As such it is easy to conclude that there are no exceptions. Not so!

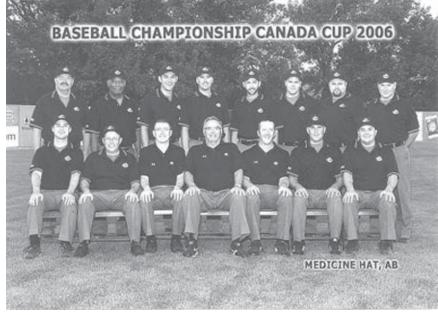
Consider the following scenario. R1 & R2. 0 out. Batter pops up to shallow right field. R2, seeing the right fielder camped under the ball, plants himself on second base and starts looking into the stands. The ball is not caught and R1 advances to second. R1 and R2 are both on second when the ball is thrown to the short stop who tags both of them. At that point R2 is out. Reference: Jim Evan's manual - 7.03 -Professional Interpretation.

In this instance the preceding runner is out. It only makes sense. R1 is forced to second base. He has no choice. He did what he was supposed to. Are you going to call him out? It is R2 who has done something wrong. R2 is forced and has lost the right to second base, while R1 was forced and acquired the right to second base.

This is another instance where the Rule Book does not provide sufficient information. I promise you that there are many more such instances of insufficient or incorrect statements in the rule book. If you intend to umpire at a higher level then you will need to elevate your knowledge of the rules 'beyond the rule book'.

# **RULE CLARIFICATION**

Recently, there has been a great controversy in the Lower Mainland about the correct call when the batter-runner stops (or starts to return toward home) while progressing to 1st base. This is usually done to "buy some time" for a runner to reach his itended base safely. There are some that still beleive that the batter-runer is to be called out as soon as he stops his forward progress. Recently, I was talking to Jim Evans about ordering some of his training materials for the BCBUA library, so I asked him about this. He indicated that Pro rules allow any baserunner to stop and retreat to avoid being tagged out, and that the ruling is the same for the batter-runner. He is allowed to stop, and even retreat, until such time as he reached home plate, at which time he should be called out. He also advised that he covered this exact situation in his "Diamond Challenge" book. We hope this clears up this matter and will direct all BCBUA instructors to teach the rule in this way.



The Canada Cup Crew including BC Umpires Howard Chapman, Ossie Chavarria and Steve Boutang- see if you can find them!



Derrick Surowski (left) and Jonathan Crowther at the Big League Experience Camp 2006



Ossie Chavarria calls Strike 3 Photo from local **Medicine Hat news** 

erClinic

# **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Membership Fee Review**

This committee was tasked with reviewing the membership dues each of you pay and what you get for your money.

The purpose of this article is not to justify why membership dues are what they are. The article is an update on what we are doing for your money.

For the record, it costs BCBUA an average of \$40-\$45 per year to provide the programs we do to our members. It does not take a genius to conclude that level 1 members (who make up about 40% of our membership) are getting a good deal. Level 2 members (who make up about 50% of our membership) are paying about the right amount, and level 3 members are helping supplement the association. As a result of grant money that we have been fortunate enough to receive over the past couple of years we have been able to provide extraordinary programs such as Superclinic with Major League Umpires, a library of resource materials, and upgraded computer equipment which stores a database of member information.

During the research of dues across the country it was discovered that BC falls in line with most other provinces in every area except for level 3 dues. BC is slightly higher than most provinces. As a result, it will be proposed to membership at the AGM that members vote to reduce level 3 dues to \$65 which would bring us into line with other provinces.

Also on the agenda for voting by our membership will be our proposal to create a new member category called "inactive member". This category will be designed for retired members who no longer wish to actively umpire, but who would still like to receive Hey Blue, have a say in our association, and be able to supervise or assist on committees. The dues are proposed at \$25 per year. There will be some minor limitations put in this category to prevent abuse.

I am pleased to say that several other measures were already approved by the Board of Directors including 'value-added' items such as: Evaluators will be made available at many more tournaments each summer. Hopefully this will assist level 3 members in getting their tri-annual evaluations, and will help level 2 umpires get better by receiving feedback from an approved evaluator more often. Also approved was that additional paid clinicians will be made available at more of the level 1 and 2 clinics. Thus, the clinics themselves should be a better product and more young umpires will have the benefit of having more 1 on 1 instruction. Several other administrative changes were made that will hopefully encourage clinicians and evaluators to make themselves more available more often without it costing members more money in dues.

In short I am pleased with these changes and hopefully the membership will approve the recommendations that have been made by our committee. Many hours of research went into them and so I hope they are not altered or defeated. Finally, I thank the other committee members, Chet Masse and Bill MacMillan, for their time.

#### Steve Boutang, Membership Committee

#### **High School Credits available**

If you are a high school student who is looking for credits towards your high school diploma, the BCBUA in conjunction with Sport BC and Baseball BC have a perfect way for you to combine baseball umpiring while obtaining the credits required for graduation.

The External High School Sports Credit program is offered to all high school students in BC, with one area being Sports Official. Baseball and Umpiring have been accredited by the governing body, thus all BCBUA registered umpires are eligible to apply.

Here's how it works. In order to receive a pre-determined amount of credits an umpire must:

• attend an approved BCBUA clinic.

• write and pass the BCBUA level 1, 2, or 3 exam.

• umpire a minimum number of games (as prescribed by the level of credit desired). 10 games is usually sufficient to cover the hours required.

• obtain a successful field evaluation from an approved member of BCBUA. (This will usually be a senior umpire from your area, Umpire in Chief, or Area Rep)

• Upon completion of all criteria, the individual must apply to Baseball BC for the sports credit. BCBUA will then be contacted for the appropriate qualifications and forward them to Baseball BC for verification.

A student/umpire can receive credits for each of level 1, 2, and 3 programs within BCBUA and each level provides a certain number of credits. The student cannot apply for level 3 credits if they are only a level 1 umpire for example. In an ideal world, the umpire would apply for level 1 credit when they are a level 1 umpire, then apply for level 2 credit when they are a level 2 umpire, and so forth. You can only claim each level once.

This program has been in effect for the last few years but for a number of reasons, very few people actually apply for the credits. We are very fortunate that the government recognizes baseball umpiring as an approved sport, so all you young folks out there should try to take advantage of this great opportunity while it exists!

If you are interested, talk to your high school counsellor, your local Area Rep, or any member of the BCBUA Board of Directors. **Steve Boutang, Education Chairman** 

#### **Discipline Committee Report**

I am pleased to report that there was not much work for me to do in this department this year. Since my last report, we concluded a serious investigation against one of our members from Lower Mainland East, who sadly was a repeat offender. The offence took place at the end of 2005. As a result, significant discipline was meted out to this individual who will have to apply for reinstatement should he decide to umpire for us again.

I would like to commend all BCBUA members for their efforts on the field this year. There were only 3 complaints made against our members in 2006, 2 of which were dismissed as not requiring a hearing or investigation. So in essence, there was only 1 incident that required investigation and hearing. This was a legitimate complaint which resulted in the member from the Okanagan South being suspended from all provincials next year and being on probation for the season. All in all, when you consider how many coaches and players are suspended for their inappropriate actions, having just 1 of our members disciplined means we are doing a very good job at handling a lot of tough situations. I appreciate all your hard work, wish you all the best in the off season, and look forward to seeing you on the field next season.

Steve Boutang, Vice President & Discipline Chairman



- 14 -

# **Education Committee Report**

I am pleased to report significant progress in the area of education since I took over the committee in January. And I mean education in a broad sense. Plans and goals for the committee include not only the improvement of the quality of education for umpires, but education for clinicians and supervisors/evaluators as well. This is being done with the great assistance of other committee members Brian Cargnelli and Eric Rasmussen, and in conjunction with the chairman of the Supervisors & Evaluators committee Jerry Tregaskis.

In 2006 our committee was able to create a package of training materials which was distributed to every umpire in chief in the province. There was a tremendous amount of information included in this package and the feedback was excellent. Please let me know if you did not receive a copy and we will send one to you. The package contains a number of different drills, training info, and ways to help your youth umpires get better.

Additionally, BC will host Caravan in January 2007. Caravan is the highly intense Baseball Canada training seminar that serves as a 'train the trainer' course. BC will pair with Alberta to operate this event next year as well which will hopefully see 15 Baseball Canada instructors certified in total. Our province has sadly been lacking in "train the trainer" work for many years however it is the goal of the Education Committee to improve in this regard. To that end, an instructor's workshop will be held next winter in BC (operated by Brian Cargnelli) which will provide grass roots training to local UIC's who conduct the majority of the level 1 and 2 clinics in our province. Part of this workshop will include a session on being a supervisor and evaluator. Jerry Tregaskis has been doing excellent work in trying to train and increase the number of evaluators in our province. This is especially important in the rural areas where it is often difficult for a level 3 umpire to obtain an evaluation.

Jerry and Richard are busy refining and improving the 3 man system manual which we will get to all level 3 umpires next clinic season. It is being totally re-written and expanded , and will be re-named *"Advanced Umpiring"*. It will include the addition of several new sections including:

- Smart Moves for the Advanced Umpire
- Smart Baseball Umpiring-How to get better Every Game
- Handling Difficult Situations, Players & Managers
- 50 Ways (or more) to Ruin a Baseball Game

In addition, the Education Committee are developing several things which will be added to make this the best manual ever! We really believe this will be a substantial improvement and truly be indispensable to the Advanced Umpire. Out with the old and in with the new as they say.

In the world of clinics, Superclinic will be a new beast this year. You can read more about that elsewhere in the issue. The many great parts of Superclinic will be retained while new components will be added, and a greater value in general will result. In fact, it is the goal of the Education committee to hold 2 SuperClinics each year in various areas of the province. Provincial grant moneys are the only way we can accomplish this however. Ideally, each geographical area of the province will host a Superclinic every other year, numbers permitting of course. Our level 3 umpires, the guys who work provincials and who perhaps aspire to become Nationally rated umpires, need better access to high level training and this is the goal of the initiative. Criteria for an advanced level 2 clinic is also in the works. Ideally this will be for all you adults and experienced umpires who for whatever reason can't be bothered or don't want to attend the regular level 1-2 clinic each season with the youth umpires. It is hoped that these clinics can be offered in time for 2007.

Finally, I encourage you to give our new committee an opportunity to succeed. In short, change may happen slowly but it is in the works and education will be better than ever. **Steve Boutang, Committee Chairman** 

## ATTEND THE AGM

December 2 & 3, 2006 Victoria Holiday Inn @ 3020 Blanshard Street

> Victoria, BC Time: 12:00 Noon

All who attend will receive the new BCBUA pin

#### Secretary's Report-cont.

A different governance and financial model may be in order. But what should the model look like? Perhaps each area can govern itself autonomously and only associate itself with other areas for matters of common concern. This would certainly allow each area to tailor the programs to best suit themselves. The Provincial Supervisor would continue to oversee the Baseball Canada program. We have no control over this as it is under the auspices of Baseball BC. The Provincial Supervisor's position is a BC Baseball position and it is the one recognized by Baseball Canada.

If you have any thoughts that you feel may be beneficial to our association please come to the AGM and share them. **Danny Huzar, Secretary** 

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

In general terms our past year has been a successful one. Our membership is up slightly. Our financial picture is better than it has ever been. The number of serious ejections is down. The ejections that are reported are dealt with by the leagues in a timely fashion, for which I would like to thank them. It all seems to be evolving into a panacea, or is this simply the calm before the storm?

The distribution of membership throughout our province provides ongoing challenges to our association. To make my points I must develop the following frame of reference. The largest area with 51% of our members is the Lower Mainland. The Island is second with 26% of our members and the Okanagan represents 15%. The North and the Kootenays each have 4% of our total membership. Our current membership rests at 1,061.

Our membership fees are much higher than we need from the highly populated areas in order to subsidize the lower populated areas. The direct costs items attributable to an area consist of manuals, rule books, crests, Hey Blue and clinic instructors. In addition we pay for the Area Representative's travel cost each time we hold a Board of Director's meeting and Annual General Meeting. When all is said and done our direct costs, in the North, are twice as much as the dues that we collect from the members in the North. In the Kootenays, our deficit is even higher because the Directors' travel is costlier due to the fact that they have 2 Directors. We will increase the losses even more as we will pay for a member from each of these areas to attend the Baseball Canada Caravan that we will be hosting with Alberta in early 2007. The Caravan is an instructors training facility of the highest order.

Both of these areas benefit financially, yet I doubt that the members there feel that way. In fact, I get a sense from these areas that the 'Lower Mainland' is taking advantage of them. Why is that? Am I simply talking to the wrong people? If you are satisfied with the way things are then please make yourself heard. That message has not been audible, at least not to me.

Another misconception is that the outlying areas have little say in the governance of our association. Currently the North and the Kootenays have 21% of the vote on the board yet have only 8% of the membership. One may argue that 21% of the vote doesn't get you anywhere, however, as a member of the board I can youch for the fact that most of the motions brought to the table by the North and the Kootenays have been carried. Not all, but I am also able to vouch for the fact that not all motions brought to the table by the 'Lower Mainland' have been carried either. The Lower Mainland in fact carries only 40% of the voting power despite having a majority of members. Most of the associations business is decided at the Board of Directors meetings. The major decisions made at the AGM are the election of the directors and setting our membership dues. Secretary's Report-continued left





## **GUIDELINES AND RULES**

- Only currently paid up members may borrow any of the resources.
- A credit card number will be required unless a local 'association' (acceptable to BCBUA) guarantees, in writing, the replacement cost and overdue fines.
- A maxcimum of 2 items may be borrowed at any one time.
- The standard borrowing time is 2 weeks (14 days). There is a fine of \$5.00 per week (or any portion thereof) for late returns.
- Level 3+ members will receive the following additional benefits.
  - borrowing time extended to 3 weeks (21 days) 3 weeks.
  - may borrow 3 items at any 1 time
  - Availability of some of the more advanced materials is restricted to the Level 3+ members.
- If shipping is required, the Borrower pays the cost of shipping in both directions.
- The borrower may request books by completing an order form on on the BCBUA website at www.bcbua.ca

We have attempted to put together a library of educational & entertaining books, DVD's and CD's to benefit you the members. If you have any suggestions for additions to the library, pleae feel free to contact Jerry Tregaskis, our librarian by telephone or e-mail, and we will do our best to locate and purchase the item if possible.



#### Ron Luciano 1937-1995 (Major League Umpire for 11 years)

"I was an umpire, but beneath my chest protector beat the heart of a fan," said Luciano. He applauded great plays, shook hands with home run hitters, and congratulated players after a good game. His on-the-field histrionics delighted the fans but were often frowned upon by players and fellow umpires. In 1975 Cleveland manager Frank Robinson levied \$200 fines against Indians caught talking to Luciano during a game. The only things that bothered Luciano were long games and making decisions. Boredom and the pressures of his profession often spawned his theatrics. He would frequently render an out call by pumping his arm several times or with a mock shooting gesture with his right hand.

Luciano's clashes with Baltimore manager Earl Weaver were legendary. The first time the two met was in Rochester (International League), and Luciano ejected the feisty manager in four straight games. In the majors, Luciano ejected Weaver eight times. The feud between the two was so severe that the AL took Luciano off Baltimore games.

Upon his resignation, the comic ump worked as a color commentator for the NBC Game of the Week for two seasons. His three books (with David Fisher), The Umpire Strikes Back, Strike Two, and The Fall of the Roman Umpire, were all highly successful and we have them all here.



#### Strike Two -Ron Luciano

Following his runaway best seller, The Umpire Strikes Back, Luciano returns with a hilarious collection of Major League laughter from his own experiences and from other MLB Umpires including:

• The famous Billy Martin Hamburger incident • The game that was called because of whales • When Earl Weaver refused to let his pitcher pitch! • the wild melee that got the entire team ejected



#### The Fall of the Roman Umpire -Ron Luciano

The wildly funny, bestselling author of The Umpire Strikes Back and Strike Two has collected into one volume the best of baseball's bloopers, blunders, and bench-warmers. Illustrated with 16 pages of photographs.



#### You're Out and You're Ugly Too! - Durwood Merrill

Durwood was one of the most colorful umpires in the major Leagues from the time he broke into MLB in 1976. Durwood shares more than 2 decades of major League experiences, anecdotes, opinions and advice. It's also a warm and whole-some story of a man who loved baseball and decided to give up his job as Principal of a Texas high school to follow his dream of becoming a Major League Umpire, and he shares his experiences through umpire school, Caribbean League, Minor Leagues and the Majors. You will enjoy it from start to finish



#### Planet of the Umps -Ken Kaiser

• In his day Kaiser was the most colorful ump in baseball and he shows why with this collection of outrageous and occasionally scandalous baseball yarns.

• This very funny memoir offers a look at life behind the plate An excellent Read!

BCBUA Librarian: Jerry Tregaskis 6663 Stoney Crescent, Delta, BC V4E 1L1 Phone: 604-594-6911 FAX: 604-594-6991 e-mail: trig@dccnet.com

# Instructional-DVD & CD-Rom



#### NCAA Baseball Umpire Mechanics (CD-Rom)

This CD includes animations for two and three-umpire system mechanics, edited and revised by Dave Yeast, Director of NCAA Baseball Umpires, and represent the preferred umpiring techniques for college play. What makes this program a "must have" for serious umpires at all skill levels, is the addition of 3D graphics, animated trails that allow you to trace the umpires every move, and a "step-by-step" mode that let you analyze the play frame-by-frame. For those umpires who use Apple Macintosh computers, this training CD will play on both PC and Mac platforms. The CD also includes a searchable copy of the 2003 NCAA Baseball Rules Book (note: you can download the latest Baseball Rules for free from the NCAA web site). This important training tool is actually the second version of this popular program.



#### NCAA Baseball Umpires Video Library (CD-Rom)

College baseball umpires will be excited to learn that a powerful new training tool has been created by the NCAA This CD includes a number of video clips highlighting plays from the 2002 NCAA World Series, shot from an umpire's perspective. Dave Yeast, National Coordinator for NCAA Baseball Umpires annotates each play with tips and techniques used by the best college umpires in the country. This multimedia CD is part of the NCAA Umpire Improvement Program (UIP). For those umpires who use Apple Macintosh computers, the CD will play on both Windows and Mac platforms.



#### See a Balk Call a Balk! (DVD)

• The left handers' step • the stop • the jump move • balk extras • pitching extras and more. They're all covered From the technical to the most common balks. • Rule Explanations • Balk demonstrations • Slow motion action • Live action • Enforcement • Pro, NCAA & FED rule comparisons

Featuring Milwaukee Brewers Pitching Coach Don Rowe and Professional Umpire Al Kaplon.



#### Handle It! (DVD)

Terry Collins and Al Kaplon review and discuss exclusive real game situations captured with live sound, then give guidelines on how to handle common situations in baseball. This video contains real, live and uncensored game situation footage about: •The fans • Asking for help • The high emotion and intensity of baseball situations. • Discussion and Guidelines • Pop Quiz and more! This one-of-a-kind <u>uncensored</u> video also reveals the unwritten rules of asking for help, changing calls, and automatic ejections!



#### Behind The Plate with John McSherry (DVD)

Includes: Strike Zone • Height • Corners • Through the Zone • Plays at the plate Positioning • Blocking the Plate • Swipe tags • Pulling or Framing of pitches • When catcher or batter crowd the plate • Ducking of pitches • Adjusting to situations The DVD features actual footage of John McSherry in full gear, along with former Major League catcher Steve Yeager

#### Umpiring Basics for the 60' and the 90' Diamond (both on one DVD)



Umpiring Youth Baseball played on a Diamond that has 60<sup>°</sup> bases. Umpire-in-Chief of Little League Baseball Andy Konyar takes you through the Two Umpire System in the beautiful setting of Howard J. Lamade Stadium...home of The Little League World Series. With instruction, demonstration & animated graphics. This video is all you need to hit the field and be ready to umpire. Plus Two Umpire system for baseball, played on a regulation size Diamond with 90<sup>°</sup> bases. Your instructor, Pro Umpire Al Kaplon, hosts the video which teaches you how to call, and proper mechanics for...Safe, Out, Fair/Foul, Catch, No-Catch Calls Plays at first, Steals, Double Plays, Jurisdiction, How to Work the Plate, Call Balls and Strikes, Clear the Bat, Handle Pop Ups, and More!



#### Baseball Rules Made Easy (DVD)

Now brought to you in video form. "Rules Made Easy" will guide you through this in-genius format and will make it even easier to understand with narration by Curt Chaplin and video demonstration of both infractions and the enforcement of the rules of baseball. Live action video demonstration along with animated graphics will make it enjoyable to learn the rules by circles. Cross referenced with the Official Rules of Baseball will make "Rules Made Easy" the time save that you will need to learn how to apply the rules of baseball. Including: OBSTRUCTION (a rule & b rule) - BATTERS INTERFER-ENCE, CATCHERS INTERFERENCE - UMPIRES INTERFERENCE - CATCH - FOUL TIP - ILLEGAL PITCH - INFIELD FLY RULES - DELAYED DEAD BALL SITUATIONS - DEAD BALL SITUATIONS - ONE BASE AWARDS - TWO BASE AWARDS (From Time of Pitch and Time of Throw) AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!



#### How to Score in Baseball (DVD)

Player/manager Jon Secrist takes you along for an in-depth look at how your can become a baseball scorekeeper. Using live, stop-action plays with baseball players of Southern California Condors and precise graphics, baseball scoring is made easy. Whether you're involved in youth sports leagues, a player wanting to learn how to calculate your own stats or just a fan, this video is an important source of information.

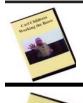


#### How to get Better Overnight - Carl Childress

In this video Carl gives you the keys that will have an immediately impact on your umpiring! How to Get Better Overnight provides you an incredible insight into the world of umpiring. It will equip you with the secrects of success for your umpiring career!

# Instructional-DVD & CD-Rom

PITCHING REGULATIONS AND BALKS	Pitching Regulations & Balks - Jim Evans (DVD)         • Learn how Professional Umpires define       • a complete stop       • A legal step       • an illegal feint
* 🔿 💦	Part 1 - Pitching Regulations You'll learn the basic requirements of the two legal pitching positions.
An Print Deliver Deliver	Part 2 - Balks Jim brings the rule book alive with clear-cut demonstrations of legal & illegal moves.
Comparison of the second	Part 3 - Balk Exam You'll reinforce your new knowledge and test your comprehension with a 25 question video exam.
SPORTS Umpiring Video Series	<ul> <li>Gerry Davis Umpiring Video Series Volume 1 Number 1 (DVD)</li> <li>Brinkman Umpiring School</li> <li>Stressful Umpiring Situations</li> <li>Base Work • Stances • Pause, Read &amp; React • The Pivot • Stressful Situations</li> <li>Plate Work</li> <li>Conclusion</li> </ul>
Umpiring Video Series	<ul> <li>Gerry Davis Umpiring Video Series Volume 1 Number 2 (DVD)</li> <li>Who is the best Umpire you've ever worked with?</li> <li>You're Out &amp; You're Ugly Too!</li> <li>Base Work - The Double Play Drift</li> <li>Base Work - the 5 fundamentals of a good stance</li> <li>Crew Communications</li> </ul>
SPORTS Umpiring Video Series	<ul> <li>Gerry Davis Umpiring Video Series Volume 1 Number 3 (DVD)</li> <li>Steve Palermo</li> <li>What was the toughest thing to learn about umpiring</li> <li>Base Work - Plays at First Base</li> <li>Plate Work - Mid Game Adjustments</li> <li>Crew Communications - Plate Umpire Fly Ball Coverage</li> </ul>
SPORTS Umpiring Video Series	<ul> <li>Gerry Davis Umpiring Video Series Volume 1 Number 4 (DVD)</li> <li>American Legion World Series Umpires</li> <li>When you are struggling during a game, how do you adjust?</li> <li>Base Work - Position B</li> <li>Plate Work - Mid game adjustments (Part 2)</li> <li>Crew Communications - Fly Ball Coverage using "The V"</li> </ul>
SPORTS Umpiring Video Series	<ul> <li>Gerry Davis Umpiring Video Series Volume 1 Number 5 (DVD)</li> <li>Can We Speed Up Baseball? Should We?</li> <li>What is an "Umpire's Umpire"?</li> <li>Base Work -Position C</li> <li>Plate Work - Strike 3 Decisions</li> <li>Crew Communications - Check Swing Procedures</li> </ul>
SPORTS Umpiring Video Series	<ul> <li>Gerry Davis Umpiring Video Series Volume 1 Number 6 (DVD)</li> <li>Umpiring Professionalism</li> <li>What is the difference between a good umpire and a great umpire?</li> <li>Base Work - Pickoffs &amp; Steals</li> <li>Plate Work - Third Base Tag-ups</li> <li>Crew Communications - Covering Third Base</li> </ul>
Carl Childress Working the Plate	Working the Plate - Carl Childress Carl Childress, Editor-in-Chief for Officiating.com, has been teaching umpires for more than 30 years. He's written scores of articles, an even dozen training manuals, and more than 20 books. He was for many years the "Doing It" columnist for Referee magazine and finished up 15 years with them as their "By the Rules" baseball man. Yet this is his first video for the general umpiring public. In this video he covers timing, getting set, tracking the pitch, and using the Gerry Davis slot stance. His main topic, though, is "looking for strikes. Likely you'll be intrigued by his take on that controversial subject. For he believes the umpire should be "looking for strikes in all the right places."



#### Working the Bases - Carl Childress

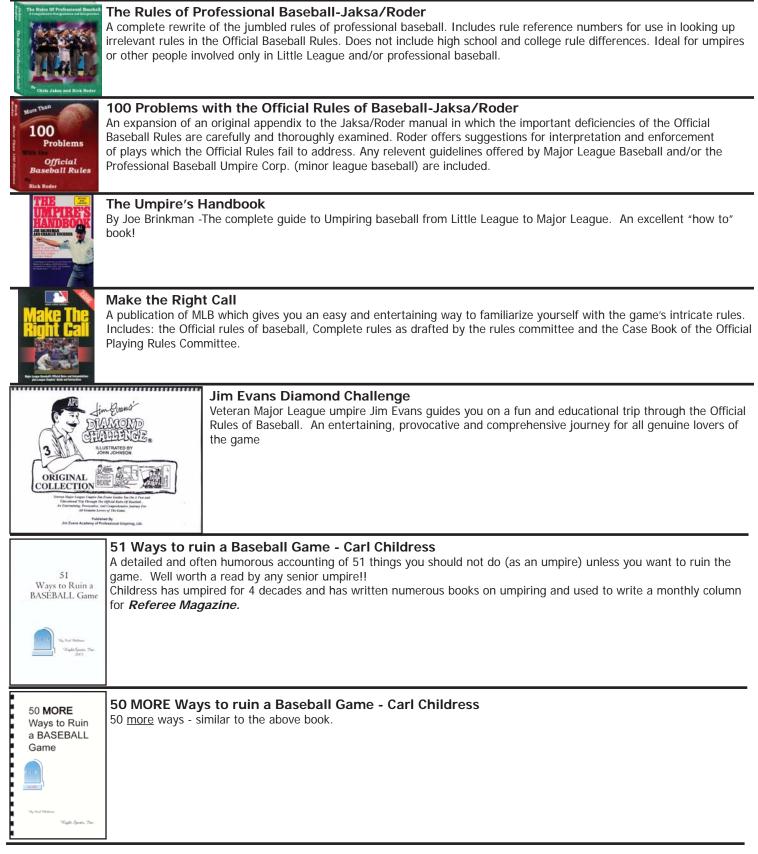
Carl covers the three basic errors that amateurs make on the bases and teaches you how to avoid them. But his main topic is "changing calls": When you can't, when you can, why you should, and why you shouldn't.



#### Controlling the Game - Carl Childress

In this powerful video he shares with you his expertise and teaches the techniques he honed through 50 years on the field. Most umpires forget that the coaches aren't the only ones who have to be controlled. Carl shows how to take charge of players, spectators, one's partner, and - of course - the skipper.

# Instructional-Books



#### ASEBALL, Baseball Rules in Pictures

Now fully revised and updated, Baseball Rules in Pictures contains the complete text of the Official Playing Rules.g bases, fair and foul balls, runner advances, bunts, force plays and more.

# **Books-General Reading**



#### **Baseball Brain Teasers**

Baseball expert challenges you to make the call on recent and classic bizarre major-league plays that really happened. For example, how would you handle a ball that bounced off a fielder's head? "Enjoyable and informative for all ages. Recommended."--"Book Report." "Belongs in every sports collection."--"School Library Journal."



#### **Big League Baseball Puzzlers**

Challenging game situations that have stumped players, managers--and even umpires. Some are real and some are hypothetical, but all of these 40 tough calls are in the megaleague rule book--plus dozens of great drawings.



#### Test Your Baseball I.Q

It's the ultimate challenge for every baseball enthusiast. Test your knowledge on real-life, hypothetical, and unusual situations, as well as on official scoring. Every pitching, fielding, batting, and running rule has been broken or bent--find out who did it, where, and when. Packed with rule applications.



#### PICTURE It's Your Call!: Baseball's Oddest Plays

This book is guaranteed to drive any baseball fan batty. Compiled by the editorial staff of Baseball America, It's Your Call puts the reader in the role of the umpire to provide the correct--and instantaneous--judgment.

ADDED

to be

#### LATER



#### **Baseball's Biggest Bloopers**

Descriptions of some of the biggest mistakes made in the game of professional baseball. Included are play-by-play descriptions, historical trivia, and statistics of pivotal players. Black-and-white photographs accompany the text.



#### **Baseball's Even Greater Insults**

There are no lyrical passages here, no fond reminiscences about childhood games, no tributes to "inspiring" players. Too much real stuff has happened since Kevin Nelson collected Baseball's Greatest Insults in 1984. This hilarious all-star review reveals how the players, managers, umpires, owners, and the sports media really feel about one another. 20 photographs.



#### Spitters, Beanballs, and the Incredible Shrinking Strike Zone: The Stories Behind the Rules of Baseball

For sports fans who have ever wondered about spitballs, pine tar, or the size of the diamond, this book has all the fascinating stories behind the rules of baseball. Archival photos

THE PROCESSION REPORT FOR ALL	
PICTURE	Baseball by the Rules: Pine Tar, Spitballs, and Midgets
to be	"If you want to understand baseball, you need this book. If you love baseball, you'll love this book"Reggie Jackson. Lists all important major-league rule changes since 1945. 50 photographs and illustrations.
ADDED	
LATER	

You've Got to have Balls to Make it in this League- Pam Postema



Making it as an umpire in professionalbaseball is tough; it involves long drives, lowpay, poor working conditions, and a constant battle for respect from players, managers, and the colleagues you're competing with for that big promotion. It's hard enough to earn that respect without the additional obstacles Pam Postema had to face: managers trying to kiss her at home plate; a feathered mascot pretending to pull her bra out the additional obstacles Pam Postema had to face: managers trying to kiss her at home plate; a feathered mascot pretending to pull her bra out of her shirt; amorous, messages left in her underwear by the .people whose actions she'd be judging out on the field. Then again, it's not every umpire who's featured on the cover of Sports Illustrated or in Esquire's "Women We Love" issue. Pam Postema worked in baseball's minor leagues for thirteen years, by far the longest of any woman in an on-field capacity in major profession-al sports. Her efforts made ational headlines, first when Houston Astros pitcher Bob Knepper declared after a springtraining game that, while she seemed to be a good umpire, the Bible decreed that womenshouldn't be in positions of authority over men; and again when she was released by organized baseball, just one step short of her dream of umpiring in the majors. Postema held her tongue through all the ups and downs, but that tongue is no longer in check. In You've Goot to have Balls to Make It in This League. Postema at last speaks out about her everying trying to reack the ultimate group of low pretverk. She last Have Balls to Make It in This League, Postema at last speaks out about her experiences trying to crack the ultimate good 0 boy network. She lets loose about the colleagues who refused to help her, seeing her as a stumbling block in their own rise to power; the league officials who put restrictions on her that no other umpire faced, while telling her she'd have to be twice as good as a man to get that crucial promotion; and the players and managers, comprising a whole galaxy of the game's greatest stars, whose treatment of her ranged from simple acceptance to the vilest, most personal abuse. The woman who emerges from these pages is funny, feisty, and very down-to-earth. She wasn't trying to be a crusader; she was just trying to do her job-and do it well. Her experiences, and her ongoing battle for the job she earned through her performance, is a great baseball story-and will strike a chord with every woman who's ever been' told' she doesn't have what it takes to make it in any league.

# **Books-General Reading**



#### Center Field On Fire - The Dave Phillips Story

• An Umpire's Life with Pine Tar Bats, Spitballs, and Corked Personalities

During his 32 year major League umpiring career, Dave Phillips was witness to some of the most bizarre occurrences to ever take place on the diamond. Among the most notable games to involve Phillips were "Disco Demolition Night", The "Pine tar Game", "Batgate", and many more - his insider's perspective is priceless!



#### Working The Plate - The Eric Gregg Story

Eric Gregg just might be the biggest umpire in professional baseball. Packed with anecdotes and insight, Working The Plate tells the story of the baseball world, from a perspective of someone who has the unenviable task of always being right. Illustrated.

PICTURE
to be
ADDED
LATER

#### Strrr-Ike!!: Emmett Ashford, Major League Umpire

As never before, this writing covers the life of Emmett Ashford on his path to becoming the first Black major league umpire. From 1940's Central Avenue high life to Alaska, this book exposes the man off of the field: a purveyor of excellence, a humanitarian, an actor, and a consummate social being. This work uniquely reveals Emmett Ashford's developmental years - even including authentic pages from his middle school composition book. His private life reveals a man who developed relevant skills early in life, a man who was the target of racism and criticism and man who maintained high personal...



#### Ten Rings: My Championship Seasons- Yogi Berra Baseball's elder statesman, beloved icon, and bestselling author tells

Baseball's elder statesman, beloved icon, and bestselling author tells the fascinating story behind each of his ten championship rings--a winning career that has spanned three decades.



#### When You Come to a Fork in the Road, Take It!- Yogi Berra

one of baseball's greatest heroes presents a third collection of essays on life, happiness, and getting through the slumps. Filled with memorable photos, this volume of homespun philosophies focuses on the valuable lessons Berra learned both on and off the field.



#### What Time Is It? You Mean Now? Advice for Life from the Zennest Master of Them - Yogi Berra

The beloved sport hero who gave us the immortal line, "It's not over till it's over" returns with a treasure of inimitable wisdom as only the master himself can tell it. In 26 unique chapters Berra shares his Yogisms about everything from the meaning of life and death to the ultimate spiritual conundrum.



#### I Didn't Really Say All the Things I Said- Yogi Berra

At last they're all together, in celebration of one of America's most beloved figures: from "It ain't over 'til it's over" to "You can't think and hit at the same time" here are all the famous Yogisms, those pithy-as-poetry legendary words that are among the most popularly quoted sayings ever. Compiled by Yogi Berra and his family, "The Yogi Book...



#### It Ain't Over Till It's Over - Yogi Berra

Berra's first-person account of his life and tumultuous times in major-league baseball. His rousing story is packed with anecdotes about his playing days and shines throughout with good humor and down-home good sense. 16 pages of photos.



#### The Wit and Wisdom of Yogi Berra - Phil Pepe

Three-time MVP, Hall of Famer, and pennant-winning manager in both leagues, Yogi Berra is one of the all-time greats of the game--and one of the funniest! Includes a glossary of hilarious "Berraisms". Photographs.



#### Behind the Mask: My Double Life in Baseball - Dave Pallone

At the end of November, 1988, Dave Pallone was released from baseball. The National League claimed he was guilty of "unprofessional behavior". Pallone insists he was found guilty only of being gay - honest, Behind The Mask offers a unique, behind-the-scenes account of big-league baseball.

# **Books-General Reading**



#### The Boys of Summer - Roger Khan

The classic history of baseball and the Brooklyn Dodgers by the preeminent writer on the sport.



#### Sandy Koufax- A Lefty's Legacy

An award-winning sportswriter presents this fascinating and eye-opening biography of Dodger great Sandy Koufax, a pitcher who changed the game of baseball forever. Leavy reveals the man behind the myth, creating an unprecedented portrait of a man described by one former Dodger as the most misunderstood man in baseball. 8-page photo insert.

or New York Street Sections.	. *
LIND ( PIN)	15.
X IIIIII	10
	11
WILD TIMES	85
COMPANY WITT	23
CANESA BULK IN	10.0
COMPACING / COMPACING	22
	Υų.
	1
	T
0.000 000	
your analog	ク

#### Juiced: Wild Times, Rampant 'Roids, Smash Hits, and How Baseball Got Big

One of the most electrifying and controversial athletes ever to step onto the baseball diamond shares outrageous tales of sex, drugs, and hard partying in the major leagues--as well as a never-before-seen look at baseball's dark secret: steroids--in his "New York Times" bestseller



#### The Zen of Zim: Baseballs, Beanballs, and Bosses - Don Zimmer This comprehensive, up-to-date autobiography offers a revealing look into the mind of one of b

This comprehensive, up-to-date autobiography offers a revealing look into the mind of one of baseball's most lovable and iconic characters.



#### Zim-Don Zimmer

Don Zimmer was a player for the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1955 and a New York Yankee coach in 1999 (when he ran the team while Manager Joe Torre was hospitalized). In between he suffered numerous injuries, spent time in the minors, was hired and fired as manager and coach of several teams, won and lost championships, and showed many younger players how to really play the game. His colorful life, and some of his unorthodox strategies, are recalled in this sports memoir.



#### Few and Chosen: Defining Dodgers Greatness Across the Eras -Duke Snider

Duke Snider, one of the most beloved Dodgers players ever, ranks the five greatest Dodgers players at each position with a detailed explanation of why each player is ranked where he is.



#### The Summer Game - Roger Angell

Roger Angell's classic collection of essays on the sport of baseball. Literate and lengthy (they were originally published in "The New Yorker"), Angell's pieces convey a rue fans love of the game.



#### The Spirit of St. Louis - Peter Golenbock

From the glory days of Rogers Hornsby and Grover Cleveland Alexander through the magnificent era of Musial to Mark McGwire's record-smashing fin de millennium, Golenbock's remarkable book details the long and storied history of St. Louis baseball. 80 photos.

PICTURE	You are Welcome to submit your suggestions for future additions to the library to Jerry Tregaskis,
to be	Librarian by e-mail at trig@dccnet.com
ADDED	
LATER	

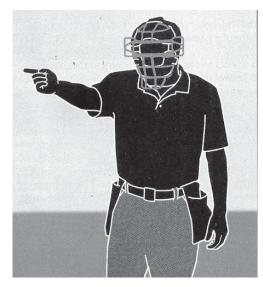
<b>PRO IΠAGE OFFICIALS SUPPLY INC.</b> <b>Post-Season/Pre-Christmas SALE!!</b> Starts October 1/06 - Ends Dec 31/06 - In Stock Items only						
\$10.00 off All Shirts \$15.00 off All Jackets 10% off All Equipment 10% off All Shoes & Bags 20% off All Accessories <u>-No Special Orders</u>		It's easy! Just use our catalogs or our websitewebsite: www.pro-image.ca Phone or e-mail us for availability and we will invoice you by e-mail -credit card only ONE CALL DOES IT ALL!				
Phone: 604-594-6911 ORDE ITEM # DESCRIPTION Please Print Clearly	LOGO BC			06 # ORDERED	FAX: 604-594-69 <sup>9</sup> PRICE	91 TOTAL
Ship To:				0	rder Total:	
Name					Shipping: Sub Total:	\$12.00
Address			7%(	GST # 8	7896 7025	
City Prov Postal Code Telephone			7%	PST (BC	Orders Only)	
e-mail:					TOTAL:	
CARD NUMBER: 0000/0000/00				E PIRY:		VISA
SIGNATURE (Must be signed)						
• If paying by credit card, fax or e-mail th	is order fo	orm to				
	•	•				
<ul> <li>If paying by cheque, make payable to PRO iΠΔGE and mail to:</li> <li>PRO iΠΔGE OFFICIALS SUPPLY INC, 6663 Stoney Crescent, Delta, BC V4E 1L1</li> </ul>						
AFFILIATED WITH HONIG'S WHISTLE STOP CANADA						

# ANSWERS TO YOU MAKE THE CALL

**1.** In all codes the move is legal, since the pitcher stepped off before making the fake, however at that point he becomes an infielder, so his throw into dead-ball territory results in a two-base award from the time of the throw. R3 is awarded home and R1 is awarded 3rd. **Pro 7.05g, 8.10e.** 

**2.** None of the 3 codes requires the runner to slide. As long at R1 does not alter the play, interference should not be called. Under Pro rules, the runner must willfully and deliberately alter the play for interference to be called.

**3.** No matter how much time elapses, no run can score when the 3rd out of an inning is the result of a force play. R3's run is taken away **Pro 7.12** 



**RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED** 

#### ARE YOU MOVING?

Every mailing of Hey Blue! Results in a numbe of copies being returned by the Post Office marked "MOVED". We are sure that most peopl who move notify the Post Office of their chang of address and that the next issue of Hey Blue gets forwarded to them but they will continu to go to the old address unless you let us know your new address. If we have a returned cop of Hey Blue! we will remove your address from our mailing list until we get an updated address We do retain your name on the Membership lis but once you are deleted from our mailing lis you will not receive any further issues of He Blue! until we are advised of your new address If you have recently moved or are planning t do so in the next few months, please complet the form to the right and mail it to us as soon a possible. If you know the date that you will b moving we will update our files for that date.

Thank You!!!

E BC BASEBALL FUMPIRES ASSOCIATION	<ul> <li>□ APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP \$50.00 LEV</li> <li>OR \$75.00 LEV</li> <li>OR 1/2000 CHANGE OF ADDRESS AS OF: 1/2000 CHANGE OF ADDRESS AS OF: 1/2000 CHANGE OF</li> <li>Please print using UPPER CASE only.</li> </ul>
LAST NAME:	FIRST NAME:
DOB(mm/dd/yy):	// GENDER:M PHONE: ()
A D D Line 1 R	FAX: () CELL: () CELL: ()
EMAIL: Please under	ine numerals
	es BCBUA to release this information to baseball leagues and/or allo
SIGNATURE	DATE (mm/dd/yy)
or emailed	this form may be faxed to (604) 469-1919 to bcbua@yahoo.com if accompanied by a cheque mailed to the address bel

# HEY BLUE! Is published 3 times a year by<br/>B C Baseball Umpires Association<br/>and is printed by Ticky Graphics & Printing<br/>Canadian Publications Mail Sales Product<br/>Agreement #41092508PostmasterIS THIS UNDELIVERABLE?<br/>If so, please return to:<br/>BC Baseball Umpires Association<br/>9 Creekstone Place<br/>Port Moody, B.C. V3H 4L7