



Blue's News On-Line Update



January 2012

National Championships 2012

The start of any year is always a busy one for umpires, and 2012 has certainly started in the same fashion! As the Junior Nationals come to a close, we now await the Gilley's Shield Finals and Men's Nationals, from 13th to 18th February at Blacktown International Sportspark (formally Blacktown Olympic Park).

Congratulations to those umpires who were successful in gaining their next level of accreditation over the previous months:

Level 5

Richard Dodds (VIC)
James English (NSW)
Jamie Harries (QLD)
Norelle Thomas (QLD)
Haydyn Wood (SA)

Level 6

Bridget Cameron (QLD)
Jay Gibson (NSW)
Jana McCaskill (QLD)
Trevor Murphy (VIC)

A full wrap-up of all National Championships will follow in 2012's first full BNOL, to be published in March.

NUC Positions

Two new National Staff member positions have been approved by SAL and the NUC welcomes Bridget Cameron (QLD) and Kyira Cox (NSW) to their positions. Both will be working with Amanda Houison, UIC – Communications, and all have been familiarising themselves with the website and other processes. Thank you to Richard Barrow for his patience and ongoing support in the technology side of things



Amanda Houison



Bridget Cameron



Kyira Cox

A very big "thank you" must also be extended to Mark Toft for all his hard work over the previous years as editor of BNOL. The NUC appreciates your efforts in keeping all umpires and other interested parties up-to-date with the happenings of umpires at a state, national and international level.

National Umpiring Program

Website: www.softball.org.au and go to umpiring



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Bulletin Update

Have you read the latest bulletins? Follow the links below for the two latest bulletins:

- *Mechanics Bulletin*: Three Umpire System – Fair/Foul and fly ball coverage for the umpire at 2nd base http://softball.org.au/uploads/res/1_65426.pdf
- *Technical Bulletin*: Use of foreign substance on the ball and the pitcher's hand http://softball.org.au/uploads/res/1_65329.pdf

Other News

- The selection process for the Trans-Tasman umpires to travel to New Zealand as part of the SAL and NZ exchange for development umpires is in its final stages of selection.
- Umpire applications have been called for the 2012 Open Women's World Championships in the Yukon and the Junior Men's World Championships in Argentina.
- The NUC and SAL are working together, aiming to bring a Facebook page for umpires to keep everyone in the know about events, appointments, bulletins and other aspects of the umpiring world.
- The Level 3-4 Umpiring Manual will be available for download shortly. Thanks to Ron Houison as lead in this project and his team members of David Casey, Kyira Cox and Trevor Murphy for their development of this manual and their ongoing work in developing an associated Presenter's Manual and PowerPoint files.
- Coming soon – a Community Umpire Manual, aimed at parents, teachers and spectators, to give them the very beginning steps to become a softball umpire.