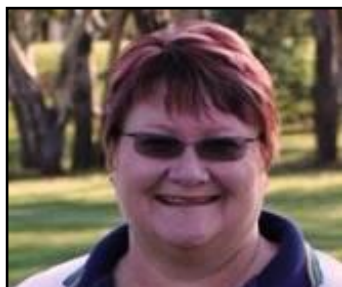


October 2012



National UIC's Call

With Tricia Sibraa

October brings us another month of busy-ness around the softball diamonds of Australia – it truly seems that there is no off-season for us umpires!

Both the ACT and Victoria have been busy with development opportunities for their up-and-coming umpires and we look forward to seeing these umpires out on the diamonds in their home states during the summer season.

ISF have also provided us with some details about Certification Seminars, and Bob Stanton's "Behind the Plate" is now available on the SAL Umpiring website. Check out page 2 for details – there's some great information available for all umpires in Bob's articles.

Lastly, SAL is in the process of ordering on-diamond umpire jackets. Orders close on Wednesday, 31st October, so please follow the link on page 2, which outlines costs and ordering procedures if you are in need of a new jacket.

Good calling until next edition,
Tricia

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ISF News

ISF Umpire Certification Seminars

Bob Stanton has released the ISF Umpire Certification Seminars for 2012 to 2014.

Whilst a seminar is scheduled for Oceania in 2014 there maybe interest in attendance at another scheduled seminar. If you are interested in applying to attend a certification seminar outside of Oceania, please contact Tricia Sibraa (t.sibraa@library.uq.edu.au).

Seminar and registration details are also available from the ISF Website.

- October 22 - 28, 2012 - Nimi, Japan
- November 13 - 18 2012 - Valencia, Venezuela
- November 20 - 25 2012 - Guatemala City, Guatemala
- January 15 - 20 2013 - Plant City, Florida, USA
- June 11 - 16, 2013 - California, USA
- TBD - 2013 – Europe
- TBD - 2014 – Oceania (*Scheduled for February 2014, New Zealand*)

Check with your Federation or the ISF Website for details.

<http://www.softball.org.nz/Domestic/SNZ+Umpires/ISF+Regional+Updates.html>

ISF Behind the Plate by Bob Stanton Now Available

Please be advised that Bob Stanton's - ISF Behind the Plate 2009-2012 edition is now available under the Education and Training section on the Umpire Resource page [[click](#)].

Merchandise

Softball Australia is taking orders for the Umpire's On-diamond Jackets. Please download an order form from the website [[click](#)] and return the completed form to office@softball.org.au by 31st October.

Australian Capital Territory

Level 2 Course

The 23rd September saw six ACT umpires descend onto a sunny Canberra to partake in a Level 2 Umpires Course to enhance their development and knowledge of the game.

Andrew Dickson, Andrew Ray, Cameron Wickham, Billy Dickson, Robert Dickson and Josh Goyne all took part in the course. All participants were fortunate enough to call ACT Diamonds pitcher Jenna Richards and test out their plate work. The main focus of the clinic was educating the participants on umpire presentation and an umpire's movement around the diamond. Simulated scenarios enabled the crew to test both their plate and base mechanics under game situations.

This course is the second step in these umpires development with the National Umpires exam in May this year being the first. With the ACT season commencing on October 13, these umpires will get the opportunity to receive feedback and mentoring from ACT senior umpires on a week-to-week basis. This feedback will assist in improving their game and may be assessed for their next level at the Annual Australia Day Tournament in January.

Many thanks to the six participants who maintained their focus throughout a day full of information!



Photo: ACT participants in the L2 Clinic

There is still some limited space available for umpires at the following events:

- National Primary Schools Tournament- Hawker 12th November-16th November (Limited Space)
- Skins, B grade & Junior Carnival (U13, U15)

If you are interested in umpiring these events, please get in contact ASAP with Alex Turnbull alex_turnbull87@yahoo.com.au

Season Begins in ACT

Round 1 and ACT Umpiring is alive and well!!

SUAACT would like to welcome several new umpires to the SUAACT ranks, Fred, Catalina, Dylan and Rhett. It's also great to see Nathan Levy come back after a couple of years away; his humour and professionalism are enjoyed around the sheds and by players and coaches.



Photo: Alex Turnbull preaching the gospel that is Softball Umpiring

We have also been able to retain most of our umpires from last season, so ACT Umpiring looks very healthy. Alex Turnbull starts his first full season as State Director and has been very busy in the off season preparing clinics, training packages and putting together new ideas for the upcoming season.

We kicked off the first round with a SUAACT refresher clinic and an umpire get together where we had some fun with some role plays and discussion. The first round of Saturday League saw SUAACT cover all but one of the games and with Duty Umpires Alex and Sarah roaming around the diamonds talking to

teams and generally supporting the umpires, and we received some fantastic feedback about the standard of umpiring. Of course the challenge now is to sustain the high standard that we hope to do through continuing the enthusiasm, training and mentoring.

ACT is on the comeback road.....watch this space.....



Photos (from left to right): Looking slick and serious is our Josh Goyne; Just as well the umpire has his eyes open!! - Jarrod Bradbury; Rhett has his eyes on the game; Another serious looking umpire - Rob Dickson

Victoria

Victorian Level 2 Development Umpire Clinic

The Victorian Umpires Committee held the Level 2 Development Umpire Clinic over the weekend of September 22/23 at the Werribee Softball Grounds. The clinic coincided with the annual Memorial Shield that provided plenty of opportunities for trainees to have live games during the training.

The attendance was very pleasing with eleven potential Level 2 candidates from 5 separate Associations across Victoria attending over the two days. Having the course run in conjunction with the Memorial Shield allowed the trainers, Level 5 Umpires Richard Dodds and State Training Coordinator Ryan Thorneycroft, to mix live games, classroom time and on-diamond simulations to deliver the course content.

The feedback from the attendees Naisie, Keanu & Hohepa Taiuiwi and Cassandra Hockley from Werribee; Jenny Joynson, Tazmin Dodds and Heather Watts from Casey; Andy Johns, Kian Privitera and Adan Penfold from Waverley and Paul Bonner from Dandenong was very positive, with the participants kept busy throughout the two days. All the participants put in an enormous effort including getting the opportunity for a base and plate on live games over the weekend. This allowed the trainers and other senior umpires to provide feedback to the candidates that reinforced the information that the trainees learnt in the classroom.



Attendees in the photo from left to right;
(Back Row) Jenny Joynson, Kian Privitera, Andy Johns, Keanu Taiuiwi, Naisie Taiuiwi, Heather Watts
(Front Row) Tazmin Dodds, Hohepa Taiuiwi and Cassandra Hockley
(Absent - Adan Penfold, Paul Bonner)

Overall, the course was a positive experience for all the attendees. The course provided the trainees the necessary preparation for presenting for their Level 2s at the forthcoming Under 17 State Championships. The course was especially positive for one of the trainers, Richard Dodds, who had the opportunity to lead the training for the first time.

Narre Warren Shootout – A perfect start to the 2012-13 Softball Season

Traditionally during early September in Victoria, most umpires and players are just starting to dust off their gear to prepare for the fast arriving summer season. Well, no longer; the Narre Warren Shootout, now in its third year has again attracted a strong following of men's teams and umpires.

The Shootout, with the best players from five teams across Melbourne, was played under Skins Rules at Casey Softball Association on Sunday September 9th. The quality of the games was extremely high with plenty of home runs and action across the games that kept the umpiring crew on their toes.

The crew included Richard Barrow (TCU), Dave Addlem, Leigh Evans, Mick Thorneycroft, Richard Dodds, Ryan Thorneycroft, Stan Tolmie, Trevor Murphy and Matt Poynter who has returned to the Victorian Umpire ranks for the first time in a number of years.

The days umpiring finished well with plenty of laughs had over the creative delayed dead ball signals performed by a couple of umpires; a very amusing finish to an excellent days umpiring.

The day also saw the first opportunity for the presentation of National Caps to both Trevor Murphy and Richard Barrow.



Photo: Trevor Murphy being presented his Level 6 Cap by State Director of Umpiring Richard Barrow at the Narre Warren Shootout.



Photo: Richard Barrow receiving his Level 6 Cap from National Umpire-In-Chief Technical, Leigh Evans at the Narre Warren Shootout.