



**Another season** is about to get underway and it is time for another UIC News to bring us all up to date.

### International Calendar

SNZ are calling for EOI (Expressions of Interest) for the following International Appointments. **EOI close with UIC/SNZ at COB 27 September 2011.**

SNZ advise - they aim to find the majority of the cost of these activities through funding applications. The level of umpire funding input will be dependent upon the success of the SNZ application process.

- Gilley's Shield & Edebone-Weber Shield R1, Victoria - 28-30 Oct11.
- Gilley's Shield & Edebone-Weber Shield R 2, Brisbane - 25-27 Nov11.
- Gilley's Shield R3 & Edebone-Weber Shield Final, Canberra 3-7 Jan12.
- ISC Exchange Aug12.

### Provisional International Calendar

- ◆ ISF Oceania Men's World Series Qualifier, Canberra – early Dec11 - (to be confirmed).
- ◆ ISF Oceania Women's World Series Qualifier, Auckland – early Dec11 – (to be confirmed).
- ◆ ISF Oceania Junior Men's World Series Qualifier – Jan12 (to be confirmed).
- ◆ Gilley's Shield Final & Open Men's Championship, Sydney – 14-18 Feb12 - TT Exchange
- ◆ ISF XIII Women's World Series, Whitehorse, Canada - 13-22 Jul12 – EOI (to be advised)
- ◆ ISF IX Junior Men's World Series, Parana, Argentina – 1-10 Nov12 – EOI (to be advised)

### USA/Canada ISC Appointments

- ISC Exchange to visit NZ 2012 **To be advised**
- ISC Exchange to visit NZ 2013 **Jay Hart (confirmed)**

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Here are a few items of interest from the NUS meeting (a full set of minutes are posted on our website)

- In the best interests of the National Umpire programme SNZ has resolved that the SNZ Annual Umpire Registration Fee will at this time be dispensed with.
- Bob Stanton the ISF UIC and Australian NUS members Tricia Sibraa, Leigh Evans and Debbie Grove joined our meeting for an International link-up via SKYPE.
- Regional Deputy Umpire appointments for the next two years:
  - Lower South Island – Dawie Sutton
  - Upper South Island – Nicola Ogier
  - Central – Lindsay Edwards. Ass't Jeremy England.
  - Northern – Bill Smith
  - At large - Wiremu Tamaki
- Following field evaluation, Gavin Shepherd (WN) was regarded from Level5 to Level 6.
- Re-graded from Level 4 to Level 5: Ross Emerson (NO), David Fortin (CB), Kevin Tippet (NN), Duncan Watts (OG), Peter Wilson (OG), Tony Kaiaruna (WN), Darrel Paul (HB), Martin Hunt (NH), Chris Radford (AK) and Brydon Wells (NH).
- SNZ policy change: Div II and Junior Secondary Schools tournaments a minimum of one umpire per game to be appointed subject to availability.
- Regional preseason clinics are programmed as follows. Contact your RDU for further details:
  - Lower South Island at Alexander. Postponed.
  - Upper South Island at Blenheim. September 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>
  - Central at Palmerston North. September 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>
  - Northern at Auckland. September 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>
- Mark McFarlane was appointed to further promote ISF UmpSchool amongst our membership. ISF Certification Seminar and ISF Re-accreditation rules examinations are facilitated through ISF UmpSchool. ISF UmpSchool is accessible at [www.ruleboxsoftware.com/isf.aspx](http://www.ruleboxsoftware.com/isf.aspx)



### At the 2011 SNZ AGM

Lance Brown (WG) was named “Umpire of the Year”.

Among Lance’s appointments last season were: Plate Umpire to the Championship game between the Black Sox and Australia Gold in Canberra. Plate on the Final of the Men’s National Fast-pitch Championship and 1<sup>st</sup> Base on the Grand Finals of the Men’s Open and the Under 19 Boys National Tournament. Lance was also on the crew for the North Island Junior Secondary Schools Tournament. Additionally Lance serves as President Wanganui Softball Association.

**2011/12 Grading Reviews** - Jeff Weber (AK), Dave Beaumont (CB), Phil Packer (HV), John Hickman (NH) and Dawie Sutton (OG) have replied and accepted the NUS invitation to be assessed for L6 this season at a U19 National Tournament or above.

**2011/12 Trans Tasman Exchange** - Liz Kawana (MN), Gavin Shepherd (WN) and Rikki Thompson (CB) have confirmed their availability for selection. This appointment will be confirmed by SNZ towards the end of September.

**2011/12 ISF Certification lead-in programme** - The follow candidates have accepted the NUS invitation to participate: Tara Harris (HV), Liz Kawana (MN), Joe Okada (HV), Gavin Shepherd WN, Rikki Thompson (CB), David Beaumont (CB), David Fortin (CB), Tony Kaiaruna (WN) and Darrel Paul (HB).

Level 7 group convener Lindsay Edwards will be in contact with each candidate to discuss the appointment of mentors and the details of the lead-in programme.

### 2011 Annual Rules Examination and Refresher

Before the end of September we will send an email invitation to all Level 1 umpires we have an email address for and inviting them to participate in this year’s open book Rules Examination. This year’s Examination/Refresher will be emailed direct to Association Contacts and interested Level 1 umpires on **Monday 10 October 2011**. The Examination closing date is **31st October 2011**.

### 2011/12 National Tournament Applications

All Association contacts will have received their Associations National Tournament Application Form. Completed application forms are to be e-mailed to Wayne Saunders at [WSaunders@globalskm.com](mailto:WSaunders@globalskm.com) no later than **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2011**.

### Facebook

I am pleased to advise that Rikki Thompson has accepted a NUS appointment as our Facebook Manager. The NUS concluded that the use of Facebook was the best way forward to build shared umpire photographic albums. One of the prime goals is to share photos of our National Tournament Crews. If you have past photos of interest please email these to Rikki at [r\\_thompson123@hotmail.com](mailto:r_thompson123@hotmail.com)



**2011 Oceania ISF Certification Seminar** was held at Redlands, Brisbane in conjunction with the Australian Men’s and Women’s Open Championships. I pleased to again report that all thirteen candidates obtained certification. Additionally successful candidates Helen Strauss, Yvonne Kahler and David Shedlock have been appointed to officiate at the

ISF IX Junior Women's World Championship in South Africa in December.



**The next Oceania ISF Certification Seminar** is tentatively scheduled for March 2013 in New Zealand in association with the 2013 ISF Men’s World Championship. Details will be finalized after regional consultation and confirmation by the ISF Director of Umpires Bob Stanton. Candidate preparation for this event is already underway in both Australia and New Zealand.

**ISF Pitching Presentation** congratulations to Softball Australia on taking the lead role in the final production of this very valuable educational tool to deliver on the Pitching Rule changes at the 2009 Congress.

The journey to get to this point began shortly after Congress with the publishing by Bob Stanton of the first issue of the ISF Pitching Points of Emphasis following peer review input from Softball New Zealand and Softball Canada. This followed by the first of the Power Point/Video presentations produced by SNZ's Director of Pitching Debbie Mygind. This presentation was made available to the ISF and shared with SA and SC. A preseason 2010 NZ nationwide presentation road-show to players, coaches and umpires proved its worth with the smooth introduction of the changes and a much improved level of compliance. SA adapted and produced a more detailed presentation for their national use. This was professionally facilitated through Leigh Evans and the offices of SA.

Following field evaluations and consultations, a minor revision was made to the ISF Pitching Points of Emphasis and reissued by Bob Stanton. The very detailed SA presentation was reviewed and adapted for ISF use and is now ready for issue for the good of the ISF.

I am personally aware of the many contributions along this journey but would like to record a very special thank you to Leigh Evans who has put many volunteer hours into supporting the ISF on this project.

This presentation will shortly be available through UmpSchool at [www.ruleboxsoftware.com/isf.aspx](http://www.ruleboxsoftware.com/isf.aspx) and ISF YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/ISFsoftball>



**Oceania update:** Many thanks to Softball Australia and in particular Andrew and Scott Rindfleish for their efforts in the collection of umpire equipment for PNG and the ISF for the payment of the \$750 shipping cost.

Recently Bob Stanton requested contact details for each National Federation's Umpire-in-Chief. On record are:

Guam: Umpire in Chief

Augusto F. Cepeda

Email: [guscgasa@hotmail.com](mailto:guscgasa@hotmail.com)

PNG: Chief Umpire

Peter Chalapan.

Email: [sportdiv@online.net.pg](mailto:sportdiv@online.net.pg)

Northern Mariana Islands: Umpire in Chief

Robert A. Guerrero

Email: [raguerrero@hotmail.com](mailto:raguerrero@hotmail.com)

Samoa: Umpire in Chief

Seiuli Levale

Email: [masa@epc.ws](mailto:masa@epc.ws)

Softball Australia

National UIC: Patricia Sibraa

Email: [p.sibraa@library.uq.edu.au](mailto:p.sibraa@library.uq.edu.au)

National UIC – Development: Debbie Grove

Email: [deblus@aapt.net.au](mailto:deblus@aapt.net.au)

National UIC – Technical: Leigh Evans

Email: [leighevans@westnet.com.au](mailto:leighevans@westnet.com.au)

Softball New Zealand: Umpire in Chief

Wayne Saunders

Email: [ww.saunders@paradise.net.nz](mailto:ww.saunders@paradise.net.nz)

Palau: Umpire in Chief

Tobias Marbou (TBC)

No details available for: American Samoa, Marshall Island, Micronesia – FSM, Solomon Islands, Cook Islands.

### **Micronesia – FSM**

A request has been received from FSM to hold a fastpitch/slowpitch umpires clinic on Pohnpei. Details are currently being finalized for a November/December clinic.

### **ISF Sub-committees** list of Oceania membership

Mechanics: Wayne Saunders (chair), Kevin Broomhall, Leigh Evans. Rules: Nicky Ogier, Leigh Evans.

Administration: Margo Koskelainen, Wayne Saunders.

Quote: "People judge you by your behaviour. Your behaviour helps build the culture."

*Wayne Saunders*

**SNZ Umpire-in-Chief**

**ISF RUC - Oceania**