

Dear VSBL Club Presidents and Secretaries,

It's preseason again, that time when all the clubs are busy setting up teams for the upcoming summer season. There's so much to do and so little time. From players to venues to teams, the list seems to go on and on. This is also the time where, as board/committee members, we need to worry about risk, in particular minimising risk to our members.

The risk management needs to cover a large range of areas:

- is the venue safe?
- is the available equipment safe and suitable for use?
- is the canteen clean and up to speck, will it pass council review?

We should also worry our volunteers, and if they are properly accredited to be involved in those roles:

- canteen staff with food handling certificates
- bar personnel RSA's
- Victorian WWCC's
- club umpires with at least level 0

And perhaps most critically, do our coaches that we trust to look after our members have current BA accreditation?

In all the situations above the question will be 'if not why not', and if not, the club and therefore the board/committee members will potentially be held accountable for any issues that may occur. It is in your interest as a committee member to ensure that all your volunteers have appropriate qualifications to carry out those roles.

Baseball Victoria has training available for both umpiring and coaching. The weekend of the 22nd/ 23rd September there will be a training weekend for all umpires, and new umpires are welcome. Please contact Stewart Howe for more information.

For coaches there is an any easy fix, and that's to get your coaches accredited. Baseball Victoria will run training/accreditation for your club or charter. All you need is to have a minimum of 5 people to attend.

The current levels available are:

Level One - Best suited for people coaching T-Ball, Zooka (machine ball) or coach pitch

Level Two - Best suited for Live Ball (player pitch)

Level Three - Best suited for coaches involved in Little League up to seniors

Please contact me at NCAS@baseballvictoria.com.au for more information.

Kind regards,

Greg Tinkler

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