

Council of Australian Baseball Scorers

Technical Commissioners: Meri Brealey, Caroline Adamson, Jeanette Irwin

Coordinator: Connie Stoyakovich, PO Box 1698; Southport QLD 4215 Email: dcstoyak@bigpond.net.au



YEAR IN REVIEW - 2021

What can I say about the year of 2021? Only that I am sure everyone will be glad to see the end of it! Normally held in January, the U16 and U18 Australian Youth Championships were cancelled, as were the Women's National Championships a few months later. The ABL season was very badly affected, with more than a few games cancelled, and club baseball programs all around the country have been doing their best to try and get in some sort of a season. The Little League charter tournaments went ahead, but sadly the international teams missed out going to the Little League World Series in Williamsport, Pennsylvania this year. Our national men's team missed out going to the Olympic trials, and for scorers, it was heartbreaking to hear that **Jennie Moloney (VIC)** had to pull out of the plum role of **Scoring Coordinator for the Tokyo Olympic Games**. But at least I could catch up with her when she and her husband Alan visited the Gold Coast over the winter (they just managed to get the trip in around the lockdowns and border closures!). We certainly enjoyed watching the opening game of the Olympics together, and it was fun chatting about all things baseball.



Around the country many of the STSO's were badly affected by lockdowns, but there were some very creative and innovative ideas for delivering scorer training and holding accreditation exams. **Natalie Todd (WA)** told me about the Zoom clinics she put on for WA scorers, and I am sure this initiative was replicated all around Australia. **Kim Bride, Kaylene Pengelly**, and the rest of the **VIC STSO**, did a fantastic job putting accreditation exams online (Levels 1, 2, and 3), with testing held via Zoom conference. When **Mike Phillips (SA)** was unable to undertake the normal Level 4 exam process due to the cancelled Women's tournament, **Steve Eads** and **Lorraine Dunn (SA)** came to the rescue, and Mike was assessed using observations from previous events, along with an added requirement of completing a written assignment. Oh, and he still had to pass the (re-vamped) Level 4 theory exam – which he did with flying colours! Congratulations Mike!

Special congratulations must go to **Hazel Erickson (NT)**, who was the first new accreditation level passed in the top end for many years. Benefitting from the training and mentoring provided by veteran Level 3 scorer **Mignon Williams (NT)**, along with the training clinics run by **Michael Gourlay (VIC)** a couple of years earlier, Hazel sat and passed the Level 2 exam on her first attempt. The exam marking was done by the **QLD STSO**, so **Meri Brealey** can attest that Hazel proved to be a very competent Level 2 scorer. Congratulations Hazel!

I also wanted to give a shout-out to **Vera Bonham (NSW)** who has been assisting **Curtis Deboy**, our National Education Manager, with some of the design and content of the soon-to-be-launched digital Level 0 training and accreditation module online. I am sure this new program will be a very welcome addition to the tools used for training new scorers.

With all the difficulties faced this year, at least CABS was allowed to alter the membership renewal process for 2021, which normally involves a payment to Baseball Australia of \$10 per scorer. This was waived for the 2021 calendar year, and everyone could join or renew by only paying their STSO fees. I didn't receive updated membership lists from all the STSO's this year, but if I was not advised of a scorer going inactive, they were rolled over for 2021.

Council of Australian Baseball Scorers

Technical Commissioners: Meri Brealey, Caroline Adamson, Jeanette Irwin

Coordinator: Connie Stoyakovich, PO Box 1698; Southport QLD 4215 Email: dcstoyak@bigpond.net.au



Here are the final CABS statistics from me, which are still looking quite healthy – COVID be darned!

CABS Membership - 513 Active and Honorary members as at 30 Nov 2021

STSO	Lev 0	Lev 1	Lev 2	Lev 3	Lev 4	Lev 5	TOTAL
ACT	23	8	2	4			37
CNSW	1		6	1	2		10
NSW	29	28	24	9	7	1	98
NT	2		1	1			4
QLD	47	35	37	17	9	1	146
SA	8	38	34	10	3		93
VIC	2	27	16	8	5	3	61
WA	11	22	20	6	5		64
TOTAL	114	145	126	55	30	5	513

Additional accreditations		
IT	4IT	WBSC
2		
7	7	
9	5	1
7	2	
6	3	2
4	2	1
35	19	4

- Since the beginning of CABS in 2003, there have been **1,413** individual members.

Accreditation Exams as at 30 Nov 2021

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
16 passed of 18 exams	13 passed of 17 exams	2 passed of 6 exams	1 passed of 1 exam

The changes to the entity of CABS which I hinted at last year are just around the corner – hence this will be my final “Year In Review” newsletter as your CABS Coordinator. Baseball Australia will be announcing a new Scorers Advisory Panel soon, and I believe the administration duties for scorer registrations and accreditations will all be done “in house”. More details will come from BA in due course, and STSO committees are being kept informed during this transition period. I do know that BA will not be collecting the \$10 fee per scorer for 2022.

The Council of Australian Baseball Scorers (CABS) began a short time after the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games (March 2002), with the scorers trained by the International Baseball Federation (IBAF) scoring coordinator, **Giampaolo Reiter (ITA)**, coming together to institute a unified, national system of scoring notations, training framework, and accreditation levels. Given a Charter by the Australian Baseball Federation (ABF), many long hours of hard work were put in by the original CABS Technical Commissioners and Coordinator – **Anne Bradbrook (SA)**, **Rae Coleman (WA)**, **Jenny Ratcliffe (VIC)**, and **Paula Kenning (QLD)** – along with the committees of each State and Territory Scoring Organisation (STSO). The system of scoring notations, training, accreditation, code of conduct, membership and renewal was devised and outlined in the CABS Manual, and scorers around Australia joined together on a semi-regular basis to share knowledge, discuss new techniques, and “Train The Trainers”. CABS was helped along the way by the ABF/BA heads of officials: **Geoff Robertson**, **Peter Gahan**, and **Brett Robson**.

It’s been a great 20 years that saw tremendous advancements in the understanding and application of the regulations delineated in the official scorer’s “bible” – the Official Baseball Rules – along with adopting the use of electronic scoring technologies. I want to thank the past and present CABS and STSO committees – and especially my Technical Commission: **Meri Brealey (QLD)**, **Caroline Adamson (WA)**, and **Jeanette Irwin (NSW)** – for their dedication, cooperation, and friendship. I wish all baseball scorers the very best for the future.

Please note that the email address scorers@baseball.com.au will be going back to BA on Monday 6th of December, so if you wish to contact me, just use dcstoyak@bigpond.net.au – which is my personal email. I hope that you all have a happy holiday season, and that you continue to stay safe and COVID-free. Never stop learning!

Connie Stoyakovich

CABS Coordinator Emeritus
December 2021