

Council of Australian Baseball Scorers

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YEAR IN REVIEW - 2019

Connie Stoyakovich, CABS Coordinator

The Council of Australian Baseball Scorers was formed in 2002 due to the hard work and dedication of many scorers from the various states and territories of Australia, but in particular Jenny Ratcliffe (Vic), Rae Coleman (WA), Anne Bradbrook (SA) and Paula Kenning (Qld), under a charter from the Australian Baseball Federation. The introduction to this charter states:

“Baseball Australia has charged the Council of Australian Baseball Scorers (CABS) with the responsibility of cultivating and advancing Australian baseball scoring by implementing and maintaining a nationally recognised development program, accreditation system and standardised scoring system, which will culminate in ensuring uniformity of interpretations, teachings and minimum standards for scorekeeping throughout Australia.”

Sadly, some of our members have passed on, but our inaugural Coordinator, **Paula Kenning** – who now lives in Georgia, USA – is very happy to hear that CABS is still alive and well! She was recently contacted after CABS was approached by the Scorers’ Committee of Baseball Canada, who wish to institute a national training and accreditation system using parts of the CABS model. They also want to use our “Scorer’s Accreditation Study Guide” as a resource, and have promised to acknowledge CABS in their materials. They said they were very impressed with the CABS system, and especially amazed by the thoroughness of the Study Guide (available on the CABS website).

Scorers love stats, and here are some for you: Since CABS began, there have been 1,334 individual members, and of those, 71 current members were members from the very start! I sent the following membership statistics to Baseball Australia in July, but I am happy to report that since that time, there have been two members re-join from the Northern Territory. Many thanks to **Michael Gourlay (VIC)** for holding clinics in NT during his holidays. The Vic STSO is also rebuilding their membership, and their numbers have almost doubled since this chart was prepared.

CABS Membership - 435 Financial and Honorary members as at 1 July 2019

STSO	Lev 0	Lev 1	Lev 2	Lev 3	Lev 4	Lev 5 /WBSC	TOTAL	Additional Levels	
								IT	4IT
ACT	17	9	2	4			32	2	
CNSW	1		6	1	2		10		
NSW	22	22	22	7	7	1	81	6	7
NT							0		
QLD	38	35	40	18	9	2	142	9	5
SA	9	35	33	11	3		91	7	3
VIC	7	10	2	3	5	2	29	5	3
WA	5	14	20	6	5		50	4	2
TOTAL	99	125	125	50	31	5	435	33	20

Another feather in the cap for CABS was the acceptance of three Australian scorers to attend a World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) training clinic in San Jose, California in June 2019. CABS Technical Commissioners, in consultation with Brett Robson, BA Head of Technical Officials, and Jennie Moloney, member of the WBSC Scoring Commission, approached **Kaylene Pengelly (VIC)**, **Robyn Karlsen (VIC)**, and **Natalie Todd (WA)** for their expression of interest. The WBSC had strict eligibility criteria, and a limit of two scorers per national federation, but to our delight, all three of our CABS scorers were accepted to attend, and by all accounts they did Australia proud. In fact, Natalie was asked to fill in for a few days at the Under 12 World Championships in Tainan, Chinese Taipei in July, and we are hopeful of more international appointments in the future for all three of these excellent scorers.

WEBSITE: www.scorers.baseball.com.au EMAIL: scorers@baseball.org.au

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Speaking of the WBSC, the Australian baseball community was thrilled to hear in November that our very own **Jennie Moloney (VIC)** was named the **2019 WBSC Scorer of the Year!** What an incredible honour, and one so richly deserved. Jennie has been scoring for the Williamstown Baseball Club since 1976, and was the Scoring Director for Victoria from 2002 to 2007. Jennie has scored at many Australian national events, and currently she scores for two of the teams in the Australian Baseball League (Melbourne Aces and Geelong-Korea). Jennie was one of the official scorers for the Sydney Olympics baseball in 2000, and she has been to numerous international tournaments and World Championships since then, including the Beijing Olympics in 2008. Jennie has been a member of the WBSC Scoring Commission since 2016, and when baseball returns for the Tokyo Olympics in 2020, she will have had a hand in the new scoring program being used – after advising the Korean software company who are developing it. She may also be on hand at the event, as we think she is a shoe-in for appointment to her third Olympics. Congratulations and well done Jennie!

Domestically, there has been plenty of baseball being scored in the junior and senior grades, and CABS scorers can be proud of the work they do to provide accurate statistics and records for their clubs and regions. There have been many clinics being held through the year, and quite a number of scorers attempting a higher accreditation level. We applaud our volunteer scorers for making the effort to learn the rules of baseball scoring and master the techniques of keeping a good scorebook record. CABS is also grateful to all of the clinic and exam facilitators for the generous gift of their time and talents. Here are the stats from 2019:

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
37 passed out of 39 exams	7 passed out of 10 exams	2 passed out of 2 exams

While many scorers are now using electronic scoring programs, such as Stat Crew's The Automated Scorebook or Little League's GameChanger app, the new WBSC scoring program "**MyBallClub**" is on trial during the **Baseball WA Division 1 State League** 2019-20 season. Hats off to Natalie Todd for spearheading this trial, and CABS looks forward to hearing how the season went, and how the WA scorers got on with using the new program.

National tournaments have had a mixture of experienced CABS scorers and novice "Charter" team scorers working at games. All these events pose a challenge for the Tournament Scoring Coordinators to ensure accurate and timely records are provided to stakeholders, while also offering some ad-hoc or informal clinics along the way. Hats off to these folks who did the job so well at Australian National Championships in 2019:

Event	TSC	Event	TSC
U16 and U18 AYC's	Melody Callahan (QLD)	Little League	Caroline Adamson (WA)
Women's/Youth Women's	Melody Callahan (QLD)	Intermediate League	Michelle Welch (QLD)
School Sport Championship	Robyn Karlsen (VIC)	Senior League	Michelle Welch (QLD)
GameChanger assistance	Peter Butty (QLD) – multiple tournaments, including Junior League		

As my first year on the job rolls into the second, I want to honour and pay tribute to **Lorraine Dunn (SA)**, Coordinator Emeritus, for the hard work she has put in for CABS over many years. She has helped me immensely with her advice and record-keeping, and we should all be grateful for such a champion of baseball scorers. Thank you Lorraine!

Last item of business is a reminder that everyone is welcome to purchase a CABS name badge for just \$15. These are high-quality magnetised badges, showing the BA logo in colour, the full name of our organisation, the scorer's name, and their accreditation level. Please let me know if you are interested and I will send you the order form.

Stay well everyone, and keep those pencils sharp!

Connie Stoyakovich

Quick rules Q for you: With none out and bases empty, the batter hits a very soft ground ball part-way up the first baseline. The pitcher runs to field the ball, but so does the first baseman, who then collides with the runner while the pitcher with the ball in his glove beats the runner to first base. Umpire calls "time" and places the runner on first base. How is this scored in your book, and what are all the batting and fielding stats?

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Answer hint: Rules 9.02(a)(1)(D) and 9.12(c)