

## 2017 Presidents Message

As we begin the 2017 season I would like to wish all participants a summer of good sportsmanship and fun as you play and compete in our unique sport. By all means play hard and play to win but do with the spirit of the game in mind.

The 2016 season saw success on many fronts. We expanded our growing list of qualified umpires thereby reducing the number of on-field incidents. We made improvements to our pitches and practice facilities and improved communications with the municipalities which will lead to better on-field playing conditions. We managed to get our bylaws in order and that will allow us to apply for grants especially in the area of development of young players. We once again hosted the VISAS tournament which brings so many players from around the world to Victoria to enjoy this tournament and our wonderful city.

All of the above takes time and hard work. Much of the work is done by the executive committee who are responsible for the day to day running of both our leagues. The amount of time that this takes is likely underestimated by the rank and file of players who show up for a match and take for granted on-field and off-field facilities which allow them to have such fun. However many other tasks are performed by volunteers. Without naming all of you, and there are many, you are the ones who run VISCUS, our umpiring section, prepare and publish our handbook, sit on the discipline and fairness committees, mend the mats and perform many other, perhaps unnoticed, acts of thoughtfulness and kindness.

Finally I would like to thank our advertisers and sponsors who made it possible for us to publish a booklet, buy uniforms and equipment, and enjoy the game that we all love. Let's play!

Jim Wenman