

## 2013 Presidents Message

It is my pleasure to welcome all cricketers and cricket lovers to another exciting cricket season in Victoria.

We the executive have worked hard in setting many priorities and achieving them even before the start of the cricket season. We are endeavouring to streamline not only the administration of cricket but more importantly, we are growing again as a league.

Many thanks go out to all our volunteers who give so much of their time and energy to cricket without waiting for any recognition. Volunteers have kept cricket alive and well over all these years.

I am excited at our growth starting this year. We have added two new teams this year to the 1st Division and one new team to the 2nd Division. I welcome all new teams to a great and satisfying cricketing experience. I am especially delighted to see a Colts team making a comeback after a lengthy absence from our midst.

This year you will notice some visual changes as well. Cricket has always been an evolving sports, on the international arena all short forms of cricket are now played in colour clothing with a white ball, now for the 1st Division we have made a shift in this direction as well. No matter what one would prefer to see, the standards of cricket will not change except for the better. We are also standardizing our umpiring to be more consistent since we now have 25 qualified Cricket Canada approved umpires in the VDCA. This year we will also be the organizing institution that is helping SMUS to hold the National Schools Cricket Championships, which is a first in the country, and we are pleased that this is being held in Victoria. Some of our juniors have already played at the national level already, and this tournament will add more young people getting excited about cricket.

I hope all of you give it your best on and off the field in cricket and in your lives.

I wish you all the sunniest of times this season.

Alphonso Franco