

# Training Officer's Report 2015

Chris Moon

**Trainers:** Chris Moon, Pete Saunders, Mike Jennings.

**Assessors:** Chris Moon, Pete Saunders, Mike Jennings, Jes Sandhu.

Of the trainers from 2014, Hans Daanen has now moved to Holland and Peter Jones has stopped umpiring.

## Courses in 2015

In 2015, BASU two-day Qualification Courses were held for the Solent, Windsor, Manchester, East Midlands and Greater London Softball Mixed Leagues.

Two one-day courses were held in Bristol and two for the GLSML.

Twenty-one assessments were carried out.

Thirty-four delegates sat the BASU two-day course but were not assessed (presumably because they only wanted to umpire at league level).

One-day Advanced Courses were again successfully held in 2015:

**North:** Manchester, six attendees (Trainers: Chris Moon & Pete Saunders).

**South:** Maidenhead, nine attendees (Trainers: Chris Moon & Mike Jennings).

It is hoped that one-day Advanced Courses will continue, but there may be a hiatus in 2016.

Lesley Morisetti, Hans Daanen and Darrell Pitman umpired at the European Slowpitch Championships in 2015.

## Courses in 2016

For 2016, we already have BASU courses booked for the East Midlands, Bristol and Cardiff leagues. GLSML have requested one two-day BASU course and two one-day courses pre-season and two in-season one-day courses, but we are awaiting confirmation on this. We are also waiting for Manchester and Windsor to confirm, and MK Diamonds Softball Club is interested in a course in 2016 which is still under discussion.

We are also proposing to hold a Fastpitch Umpire Course in 2016 on Sunday 8 May, and new BASU Fastpitch Officer Bridget Cameron is currently writing a training manual for this.

In 2016 I am hoping to add after-tournament sessions with umpires to run through two-man systems and any queries or help they feel they need. This could involve taking one field after the

last game of the day (on Saturday) and getting some players together to play a game. This would not form part of any course, but is designed to bring umpires up to speed on the mechanics used in the two-man system. This would not be feasible at every tournament but is something BASU should offer at major two-day tournaments.

Our current qualification system for BASU umpires is a two-day course followed by an assessment and then another assessment two years later and a further BASU two-day course two years after that. But this means that from the time they first qualify after passing the initial assessment, new umpires are on their own for two years! So as determined at the recent AGM, BASU will offer more structured support and mentoring to new umpires in the initial period after qualification.

Thank you once again to individuals in the leagues who encourage their players to complete one of our courses, as well as to everyone who gave up their time to come on a course and the trainers who gave up their time to make sure the courses take place.

I look forward to another season of growing BASU membership.