

CBUA

Rich Fetchiet, CBUA Founder

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Richard Fetchiet

CBUA Founder

Office: 734-647-4016

Cell: 734-637-2861

Email: plateman@umich.edu

4083 Lake Forest Drive East

Ann Arbor, MI 48108

In 1995 Richard Fetchiet created the Collegiate Baseball Umpires Alliance (CBUA) to enhance college baseball umpiring and to improve relationships with college and university baseball programs. In essence he developed the country's first college baseball umpire consortium. This model has since been emulated by conferences and coordinators for officials in most collegiate sports throughout the United States.

Rich led this Alliance admirably for 24 years. In the summer of 2018 Rich recruited and selected Mark Uyl as his successor. Mark currently serves as the CBUA Managing Director. You can learn more about Mark and the CBUA by visiting our web site at: www.cbua.arbitersports.com/

Rich Fetchiet retired from active umpire duty prior to the 2001 season after 30 years as an amateur baseball umpire. His background includes over 35 years of collegiate, national, and international umpiring and umpire-related administrative experience.

Over the years Mr. Fetchiet served as Coordinator of Baseball Umpires for the American Athletic Conference, Big East Conference, Big Ten Conference, Big 12 Conference, Conference-USA, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, Horizon League, Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association, Mid-American Conference, Missouri Valley Conference and the Summit League.

At the end of the 2018 season, Rich retired from several conferences. He currently serves as Coordinator for the American Athletic, Big 12, Big Ten, Big East and Mid-American Conferences. He is also on the NCAA National Umpire Improvement Program Advisory Committee. He has served as the Secretary-Editor of the NCAA Baseball Playing Rules Committee and Chair of the American Baseball Coaches Association Playing Rules Committee.

Rich has served on the Board of Directors of the Amateur Baseball Umpires Association (ABUA) and is currently active in several umpiring organizations. He served two terms on the NASO Board of Directors, including being Chair of the Board in 2015-16.

As an active college baseball umpire, Mr. Fetchiet worked numerous conference tournaments, multiple NCAA Division I Regionals and Super Regionals, and made three College World Series appearances, serving as the plate umpire for the 1999 National Championship Game.

Included among Richard's international tournaments were the 1991 Pan Am Games in Cuba, 1993 World Cup Qualifier in Nicaragua, 1997 Intercontinental Cup in Spain, 1998 World Championships in Italy, the 1999 Cuban National Team's game with the Baltimore Orioles in Camden Yards, and the 2000 Olympic Games in Australia.

Rich is a respected clinician and has taught umpiring across the United States. He has lectured in officiating courses at several colleges and universities.

In 1997 Mr. Fetchiet was named IBAF International Umpire of the Year and in 2012 he was the second umpire ever selected for induction into the College Baseball Hall of Fame.

Mr. Fetchiet is a higher education administrator at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry.

Rich and his wife, Kay, reside in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

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