

## **SLBA Chairman's Report 2009**

Once again I feel we have had a very successful season with most clubs finishing their league matches and the competition in each of the leagues looking healthy with lots of keen fought contests in the main, showing good sportsmanship and reflecting very favourably on all concerned.

A low point in our campaign was the loss of a stalwart and long serving coach Mickey McKechnie. He was sadly missed this year both in terms of his massive contribution to the sport but also his character and presence throughout the region. Our thoughts are with his family at this time as we remember him fondly.

It is still good to see Glasgow city featured in the men's, Junior & Cadet leagues. Let's hope this continues.

League administration still continues along the successful model with all the league co-ordinators, results officer, secretary and Discipline officer keeping well in touch to keep everything bowling along. Most of this is done by secretary Jim Connor and Stuart Holland who keep a real close eye on all the fixtures and the website, which is a particular source of information we would all do well to support and refer to regularly to keep us on the ball.

The cup finals this year in their new Lagoon venue were excellent with all the plans coming together nicely on the day. The new MVP awards proved to be well received and this is a feature we hope to continue in the future. The women's final was a particular high spot with Glasgow Uni. clinching the title at the third attempt and on a serious WNBA buzzer beater.

The revived Inter area Tournament for men and women proved a great success and we will hope to build on this next year as we accept responsibility for hosting this event. This is rarely viewed by the governing Body as a major development initiative and funding for senior events always proves difficult. It is always easier if we are developing under 14, Cadet (u16) or Women's events. The SLBA are prepared to continue to support senior opportunities and fund them where and whenever they exist.

Congratulations to all Cup and league winners and commiserations to all those clubs who nearly made it. There is always next season.

Club call - More Coaches, More players, more officials try your best in all areas!

More hall access at rates we can afford would certainly help improve our standards - If you're not on the floor at least twice a week you won't win and you won't get better. That's a big ask!

**Good luck in season 09-10**

**Chairman - Allan T**