

# The Bulletin

## Statewide Vision Resource Centre

**Number 12****Monday 9th August 2010**

This issue was edited by Lyn Robinson, Statewide Vision Resource Centre.

### Professional Development Activities for Term 3 & 4, 2010

Professional Development Event 2010	Date
<b>Skill Power Workshops for Visiting Teachers, Teachers, Aides, Students etc</b> Session 1. <b>Windows 7</b> 12.00 noon – 1.30 pm Lea Nagel, SVRC Session 2. <b>WYNN</b> – 2.00pm to 3.30pm Trevor Boyd, Quantum Technology	Tuesday 10 August
<b>A Blind Child at My School</b> – class teachers, integration teachers and aides, therapists, family members and visiting teachers who are working with blind prep students in 2011.	Wednesday 11 August
<b>Term 3 Visiting Teacher PD Day</b> – Macbook, iPad and iPhone accessibility options.	Tues 24 Aug
<b>Dot Power</b> – for early braille readers	Tues 9 Sep
<b>Support Skills Come and Try Day</b> – for students wishing to try Support Skills	Fri 10 Sep
<b>Blind Cricket Day</b> – students from year 4 to year 12 all welcome	Fri 17 Sep
<b>SPEVI Day</b>	Mon 4 Oct
<b>Vision Loss Support Group: My Story</b> – for details contact Annette Godfrey-Magee	Sat 11 Sep
<b>Dot Power</b> – for early braille readers	Tues 23 Nov
<b>Educational Expo – Access Technology Options</b> This day is suitable for teachers, aides, parents/care-givers, visiting teachers, STUDENTS and members of the wider community	Fri 26 Nov
<b>SVRC Christmas Morning Tea</b>	Wed 1 Dec

\*Skill Power Workshops: please BYO technology and lunch. The yearly program is available at:  
<http://www.visiontech.svrc.vic.edu.au/PDannual.htm>

### Report on PD day for Psychologists

Report by Marion

Fifteen psychologists from Government and Catholic school systems and Vision Australia spent a day gaining wisdom from Geoff, ably assisted by Annette, Lyn and Marion. The end of the day was topped off by an inspirational Bryony (ex-VT student). Topics ranged from causes of vision impairment to how to adjust the WISC for blind and vision impaired children. On a rating from one to six, with six being 'outstanding', every session rated at least a five from every participant. To quote one comment on an evaluation form: 'Learnt new things I wouldn't learn anywhere else. Congratulations on your vital contribution to the community. Six is a suitable rating for a lifetime commitment' and 'I know that I can apply the knowledge learnt here in other areas of student disability, not only with vision impaired.' I think this will become an annual event by popular demand. Well done, Geoff!

### Inside This Issue

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## Trans-Tasman braille proficiency examination (UEB)

This examination, jointly administered by The Australian Braille Authority & The New Zealand Braille Authority, is on again this year if you would like to test your braille skills. If you would like to sit the Braille Proficiency Examination you need to provide the following details:

- **Name of Candidate:**
- **Contact details (postal address, email and telephone):**
- **Format for examination materials (regular print, large print, braille):**
- **Preferred examination period in Australia (please indicate)**  
Week 1: Monday 20th to 24th September 2010, or  
Week 2: Monday 27th September to Friday 1st October 2010
- **Braille writing equipment to be used for the examination (please indicate).** Manual braille; Electronic braille notetaker; Computer with braille software program\*, or Other (please specify)
- **Name to appear on Proficiency Certificate:**
- **Signature of Candidate:**
- **Date:**
- **Cost: Australia:** \$55.00 (including GST)
- **Closing date for registrations:** Friday 13th August 2010

\*Special Note: Candidates completing the examination using a computer must agree to use six-key entry and deactivate the proofreading line (if available).

Please make cheque or money order payable to Round Table on Information Access for People with Print Disabilities. Round Table will issue a tax invoice upon receipt of payment.

Australian candidates please send completed application forms and payment to:

Linda Triasmono, 6/20 Sarah Street, Annerley, Qld 4103

Email: [lindatriasmono@bigpond.com](mailto:lindatriasmono@bigpond.com)

## Enrol in Hadley Courses!

The Hadley School for the Blind and Utah State University (USU) partnered in 2008 to meet the growing demand for an affordable certificate and degree program for professionals offered through distance education. Courses are offered as part of USU's SKI-HI Institute, a unit of the College of Education's Department of Communicative Disorders and Deaf Education. This training better enables USU-Hadley students to work with children who are blind or visually impaired often with multiple disabilities.

Students in this unique program are able to earn either a Certificate in Blindness at the undergraduate level or a USU Associate's degree in General Studies with a Focus in Blindness, preparing them to work in a classroom with school-age children who are blind or visually impaired. Courses include Introduction to Blindness and Visual Impairment, The Human Eye and Visual System, Introduction to Braille, The Role of Paraeducators with Individuals who are Blind or Visually Impaired, Introduction to Low Vision and Introduction to Multiple Disabilities. The program is available to teachers, teacher assistants, paraprofessionals and parents at in-state tuition rate or a reduced rate for non-credit students.

To learn more or register, please visit <http://www.skihi.org/HADLEYUSU-HOME.html> .

To learn about courses for credit, please contact Linda Alsop at [linda.alsop@usu.edu](mailto:linda.alsop@usu.edu)

To learn about the non-credit option, please contact Fran Payne at [fran.payne@usu.edu](mailto:fran.payne@usu.edu)

Thanks to Jill Keefe for this information.

## Schools Blind Cricket

The Victorian Blind Cricket Association in conjunction with the Statewide Vision Resource Centre extends an invitation to attend the Blind Cricket come and try / coaching clinic day.

Attendees will learn the art of blind cricket through a range of activities and games designed to enhance team work and the individual's hand eye / hand ear coordination skills. Parents / guardians and Visiting Teacher are also encouraged to attend the day. Staff from the Statewide Vision Resource Centre will be in attendance.

Blind Cricket in Victoria is an open aged mixed gender sport with players receiving accommodations depending on age, abilities and level of vision enabling the participation of all players regardless of age, gender or vision levels. Blind Cricket is a great way to keep fit as well as build up social networks.

There is no cost to participants to attend this programme and a sausage sizzle lunch and a soft drink will be provided to all students attending the day.

If you would like to attend this programme registration is essential via the Statewide Vision Resource Centre by completing the attached registration form (and permission / medical form for non-Support Skills students) by Friday 3rd September 2010. Please note that no student will be permitted to participate in the programme unless the VBCA registration form is completed and signed by parent or guardian. The VBCA registration form is a separate document to any document which the SVRC may require to be completed.

Further information about this day can be obtained by contacting Rod Pritchard by phone on (BH) 03 8842 5878, (AH) 03 9754 7308, (Mob) 0401 718 926 or email to [pritchr@anl.com.au](mailto:pritchr@anl.com.au) or Garry Stinchcombe (BH Wed-Fri) 03 9841 0242 or email to [stinchcombe.garry.g@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:stinchcombe.garry.g@edumail.vic.gov.au).

The VBCA hope you will take this opportunity to explore the benefits of playing blind cricket and we look forward to meeting with you on the day.

**When:** Friday 17th September 2010

**Time:** 9:30am to 2:30pm

**Who:** all students with vision impairments in years 4 to 12

**Where:** please meet at Cricket Pavilion, Victorian Blind Cricket Association's grounds  
454 Glenferrie Road Kooyong (at the rear of Vision Australia)

**RSVP:** essential by: Friday 3rd September 2010

## Blind Sports Victoria: making a splash!

JCAA, Blind Sports Victoria and Swimming Victoria are offering a 6 week swimming program for people who have low or no vision. This program caters for all levels of swimming abilities and can be tailored to suit individual needs.

**Where:** Melbourne Sports & Aquatic Centre (MSAC) Aughtie Drive, Albert Park (Hydro pool & lap pool available)

**Cost:** \$20 per term (6 week program)

**Time:** 10.30am -11.30am

**Dates:** Tuesdays from 10 August – 14 September, 2010

**Transport:** Trams 96 & 112 (Stop 131). Other transport options are available, please contact Blind Sports Victoria on the number below to discuss further.

To register or for more information contact Susan at Blind Sports Victoria on 9822 8876

## SPEVI Day Update

from Marion Blazé

The program for the SPEVI day on October 4 is coming together. Please have a look at the draft with this Bulletin. Please also remember to REGISTER by September 10 (we need to know who's coming before the end of term – otherwise we may not be able to cater for your needs). We also encourage you to nominate a new Victorian SPEVI counselor. AND to put your name down for a 'SOAP BOX TOPIC' so that you can share your wisdom, creativity or experience with your colleagues. All the forms were in the Bulletin prior to this one (Number 11) or you can obtain them by emailing Marion at [marionblaze@svrc.vic.edu.au](mailto:marionblaze@svrc.vic.edu.au)

## New Braille Rulebook

The Australian Braille Authority (ABA) website will soon be updated with a link to the UEB rulebook, the ABA Annual report for 2009-2010, and information on the upcoming UEB proficiency exam, along with lots more. Until then, the UEB rulebook is available as .pdf from the ICEB website at <http://iceb.org/ueb.html>

From: Leona Holloway, Vision Australia

## Program for Visiting Teachers on August 24

Attached to this Bulletin is the updated program for August 24 and we have a bonus visitor from Far North Queensland who will attend the PD and give us a session in the afternoon. Look forward to catching up with everyone then.

From Marion.

## Education for children with a disability – a guide for parents

This guide aims to give you a broad understanding of the support available for children and young people with a disability in the Queensland state school sector.

It will give you a quick tour of:

- schooling for children with a disability in Queensland
- the specialised support available to students with a disability
- what you can do to get the best outcomes for your child.

From Michelle Hambly | Senior Advisor: Students with Disabilities

<http://www.education.qld.gov.au/studentsservices>

## SEAS and VTAC Information

As well as the information session about SEAS to be held at Vision Australia there will be an extra session hosted by the NDCO.

**Date:** Thursday 19 August 2010

**Time:** 6.00pm - 8.30pm

**Venue:** Darebin Arts and Entertainment Centre, Corner Bell Street and St Georges Rd, Preston

**Cost:** Free

**RSVP:** By Wednesday 11 August 2010

**Contact:** Effie Kapsalos. Phone: 03 9686 2354 email: [ekapsalos@imvc.com.au](mailto:ekapsalos@imvc.com.au)

**To book online:** [http://www.imvc.com.au/new\\_site/NDCO\\_Booking\\_Request.asp](http://www.imvc.com.au/new_site/NDCO_Booking_Request.asp)

Source: Max Bini – Vision Australia

## The Ultranet is Here!

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development has launched an exciting and innovative way for schools communities to stay in touch and work together. Every teacher, student, parent and support staff member will have access to the Ultranet. From the DEECD website:

The Ultranet is a statewide, secure site that students, parents and teachers can access via the internet. It will provide a new learning space and more opportunities for information sharing across the Victorian government school system.

The SVRC has been considering the opportunities the Ultranet will provide for interacting with schools, students, parents and visiting teachers. Some of the suggestions so far for the SVRC space on the ultranet include:

- The Bulletin
- Support Skills News
- Resources such as catalogues and curriculum materials

Please let us know if you have any suggestions. Stayed tune for more information soon!

To read more about the Ultranet go to:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/directions/ultranet/default.htm>

## Looking for Plays

We are looking for "reader-type books" in the format of "plays" to use in the Support Skills Program – anything that would be suitable for students from Prep to Year 6 would be terrific!!! Any number of characters would also be terrific!!! If you bring the print in, we can make a copy immediately so that you can take the books straight back to your schools.

Many thanks in advance

Deb, Lea and Garry

## Children's Mobility Service: Walktober

“Walktober” is a whole month dedicated to walking. Register with the Children's Mobility Service and they will provide you with a package of “walking” information to encourage you to get your feet moving. There will also be prizes on offer for those who complete their walking challenges. This is a great opportunity for all students and families to walk together, to practice their O&M skills and to win some fun prizes.

**When:** 1 October – 31 October 2010

Register your interest with your O&M instructor or contact Rachel Morgan on 03 9854 4469

[Rachel.m@gudiedogsvictoria.com.au](mailto:Rachel.m@gudiedogsvictoria.com.au)

## Staff and Student News

Jeni's student Declan won a bronze medal for Junior Indoor Archery at the State Indoor Archery Championships in Morwell in early July. He proudly showed us his medal when he was at the SVRC for Support Skills. Well done, Declan!!

## Finally

Thanks to everyone for their contributions to this Bulletin especially, Deb Lewis & Marion Blazé.

If you have something you would like included in "The Bulletin" please forward it, preferably in a Word document, to Lyn Robinson [lynrobin@svrc.vic.edu.au](mailto:lynrobin@svrc.vic.edu.au)

To Read the Bulletin Online: <http://www.svrc.vic.edu.au/bulletins2010.html>

# Statewide Vision Resource Centre

370-380 Springvale Rd Donvale

Presents

## Professional Development Program

Visiting Teacher Day

Term 3

Tuesday 24 August 2010

8.30am	Come early for coffee and a catch up!
9.30-11.00	Podcasting and Mac accessibility for vision impaired Andrew Del Mastro, Beyond Chalk
11.00-11.30	Morning Tea and Network Time
11.30-12.15	The iPhone and iPad for vision impaired users Jim Pipczak, Vision Australia
12.15-12.45	X-Linked ocular albinism Sharon Saunders - VT Gippsland
12.45-1.25	Lunch: A light lunch will be provided
1.25-1.50	The Pearl portable reading solution - new CCTV technology from Pacific Vision - Jon Torwick
1.50-2.25	Assessing the impact of vision impairment for education of young people - the IVI-C - Gillian Cochrane - Centre for Eye Research Australia
2.25-2.45	Victor Stream and Text files - Garry Stinchcombe, SSP coordinator, SVRC
2.45-3.15	Support for VI in FNQ and the 'Helping-hand' - Wendy Yinfoo, Advisory Teacher for VI, Far North Queensland
3.15-3.30	MyVisBar - a nifty new computer tool - Lyn Robinson, Resource Officer, SVRC

This program will commence punctually at 9.30am and please RSVP

Cost: \$44.00

Registration is essential - by Thursday August 19 2010

Phone 9841 0242, fax 9841 0878 or email [svrc@svrc.vic.edu.au](mailto:svrc@svrc.vic.edu.au)



## **SPEVI Victoria Combined Agencies PD Day - October 4, 2010**

### **THE PROGRAM SO FAR**

(as at July 30)

**Theme:** Futures for young people with vision impairments

**8:30 Registration, Networking and Coffee time**

**9:30 House-keeping and welcome** - Garry Stinchcombe, Coordinator Support Skills, SVRC

**9:40 Employment for people with VI – the worldwide perspective** – Maryanne Diamond, World Blind Union

**10.15 Agency reports including: how does your sector plan for students' futures?** – Vision Australia, Early Childhood Education, DEECD, Statewide Vision Resource Centre, Guide Dogs

**11:00 Morning tea and networking**

**11.20 3-minute 'Soap Box' topics**

**11:35 What skills do children need for their future?** – Annette Godfrey-Magee, Education Officer, SVRC

**12.05 Managing families' questions about the future for their child** – Geoff Bowen, Educational Psychologist, SVRC

**12.30 Planning for effective work experience** – tbc, DEECD VTs

**1:00 3-minute 'Soap Box' topics**

**1:10 Lunch and networking**

**2:00 3-minute 'Soap Box' topics**

**2:10 Real experiences with employment pathways - panel** – tbc – chaired by tbc

**3.00 Support for employment** Sense wide – Adam T

Wise – Bevan Burkin, DES Program Manager WISE

Vision Australia's tertiary support service – Max Bini, Tertiary Education

Consultant

Vision Australia's employment support - tbc

Supported employment options (e.g. Roytal, CentreLink, tbc)

**3.30 Where are the gaps in our support for futures?** tbc

**3.45 Close**



Statewide Vision  
Resource Centre

PO Box 201

Nunawading 3131

Tel: (+613) 9841 0242

Fax: (+613) 9841 0878

Email: [svrc@svrc.vic.edu.au](mailto:svrc@svrc.vic.edu.au)

## Consent Form Blind Cricket Day 2010

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (insert parent/guardian name) being  
the parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_ (insert student name)  
who attends \_\_\_\_\_ (insert name of school)

give consent for my child to participate in the Statewide Vision Resource Centre's Blind Cricket Day 2010 run in conjunction with Victorian Blind Cricket Association.

I give permission for staff of the Statewide Vision Resource Centre to keep a file with relevant information regarding my child, and to send reports and feedback to my child's school and/or visiting teacher [if applicable].

I give consent to use and reproduce photographic/video/film/digital images of my child – for educational and/or promotional purposes including reproduction in the SVRC newsletter (The Bulletin), inclusion on the SVRC website, demonstration during professional development programs etc. Please attach comments or exclusions.

I authorise the teacher in charge to consent, where it is impractical to communicate with me, to my child receiving such medical or surgical treatment as may be deemed necessary.

I agree to meet the expense of my child being returned to home. I understand that such an arrangement may be due to illness, injury or in the opinion of the teacher in charge there is non co-operation of any description by my child.

I understand that computers, cameras, cash and other valuables which are brought on the day are the student's responsibility and are to be brought at their own risk.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Print name \_\_\_\_\_

## Confidential Medical Information for School Council Approved Excursions

The school will use this information if your child is involved in a medical emergency. All information is held in confidence. This medical form must be current when the excursion/program is run.

Parents are responsible for all medical costs if a student is injured on a school approved excursion unless the Department of Education is found liable (liability is not automatic). Parents can purchase student accident insurance cover from a commercial insurer if they wish to.

Excursion/program name: Statewide Vision Resource Centre Support Skills Program – 2010  
Date(s): 17 September 2010

Student's full name:

Student's address:

Postcode:

Date of birth:

Year level:

Parent/guardian's full name:

Name of person to contact in an emergency (if different from the parent/guardian):

Emergency telephone numbers: *After hours*

*Business hours*

Name of family doctor: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of family doctor:

Medicare number:

Medical/hospital insurance fund:

Member number:

Ambulance subscriber?  Yes  No If yes, ambulance number:

Is this the first time your child has been away from home?  Yes  No

**Please tick if your child suffers any of the following:**

- Asthma (if ticked complete Asthma Management Plan)  
 Fits of any type (if ticked complete Epilepsy Management Plan)  
 Anaphylaxis (if ticked complete Anaphylaxis Management Plan)  
 Diabetes  Dizzy spells  Heart condition  Migraine  
 Sleepwalking  Travel sickness  Bed wetting  Blackouts

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Swimming ability**

*Please tick the distance your child can swim comfortably.*

- Cannot swim (0m)  Weak swimmer (<50m)  Fair swimmer (50-100m)  
 Competent swimmer (100-200m)  Strong (200m+)

**Allergies**

Please tick if your child is allergic to any of the following:

Penicillin  Other Drugs: \_\_\_\_\_

Foods: \_\_\_\_\_

Other allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

What special care is recommended for these allergies? \_\_\_\_\_

Year of last tetanus immunisation: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Tetanus immunisation is normally given at five years of age (as Triple Antigen or CDT) and at fifteen years of age (as ADT))

**Medication**

Is your child taking any medicine(s)?  Yes  No. Please list: \_\_\_\_\_

Does your child need to take medication during school hours?  Yes  No  
 If yes, provide the name of medication, dose and describe when and how it is to be taken.

All medication must be given to the teacher-in-charge. All containers must be labelled with your child's name, the dose to be taken as well as when and how it should be taken. The medications will be kept by the staff and distributed as required. Inform the teacher-in-charge if it is necessary or appropriate for your child to carry their medication (for example, asthma puffers or insulin for diabetes). A child can only carry medication with the knowledge and approval of both the teacher-in-charge and yourself.

**Medical consent**

Where the teacher-in-charge of the excursion is unable to contact me, or it is otherwise impracticable to contact me, I authorise the teacher-in-charge to:

- Consent to my child receiving any medical or surgical attention deemed necessary by a medical practitioner.
- Administer such first-aid as the teacher-in-charge judges to be reasonably necessary.

Signature of parent/guardian (named above) \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The Department of Education requires this consent to be signed for all students who attend government school excursions that are approved by the school council.

**Note:** You should receive detailed information about the excursion/program prior to your child's participation and a Parent Consent form. If you have further questions, contact the school before the program starts.



Victorian  
Blind  
Cricket  
Association

## Schools Clinic Registration

Clinic Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Player Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Year Level: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to receive official board correspondences via email? **Yes / No**

Name and phone number of person to contact in an emergency:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### MEDICAL INFORMATION

**Please give details of any medication you are taking:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please give details of any allergies you have:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please give details of any medical conditions we should be aware of in an EMERGENCY:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I agree that the information I have provided is correct, I agree to be bound by the VBCA's rules, conditions of membership and code of conduct while on VBCA grounds or at VBCA sponsored functions, and I acknowledge that my information, including medical details and email address will be stored, accessible and updatable, in accordance with the VBCA's privacy policy. I will notify the VBCA Secretary if any of my details change.

**Parent or Guardian's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent or Guardians Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_



**Patron** Max Walker

**President**

Nick Pepper

BH:(03) 9699 3111

AH:(03) 9386 2167

**Pavilion** (03) 9822 7713

Alf O'Neill **Secretary**

**Email** secretary@vbca.org.au

42 Mountfield St.,

Brunswick

Victoria 3056

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## VBCA Privacy Policy 11/07/2003

### **Part 1 - Information Storage:**

All information provided on Player Registration Forms shall be kept by the Secretary of the VBCA. This information shall be kept in a secure location, and only accessed by the VBCA Secretary, or VBCA President. Except where specified below, the information will be held in strict confidence and not be disclosed to third parties. Upon appointment of a new VBCA secretary, all copies of VBCA information held by the outgoing secretary shall be handed over to the incoming secretary, including all personal information of members.

### **Part 2 - Medical Information:**

Medical information regarding players shall be treated with the utmost confidence. Where a player's medical information needs to be retrieved in order to treat a player because of illness or accident, and the player is unable to relay the information themselves, the Secretary of the VBCA, or the President if the Secretary is not available, shall only disclose this information to any qualified medical personnel who are treating, or plan to treat, the player and the information may be relevant.

### **Part 3 - Contact details:**

All contact details for the player, such as phone numbers and email address, shall only be used when the VBCA board needs to contact that player for a specific reason. Under no circumstances will a player's contact details be given to any third party, except where an act of law demands it, where the player has authorised it or where the player is unable to convey assent and it is deemed by the board, in the player's best interests to do so. Under this final circumstance, a written notification will be given to the player, informing them of what information was disclosed, to whom it was disclosed, and the reasons for this action being taken.

Where a player has supplied an email address, and indicated that they wish to receive board correspondence, the Secretary of the board only shall send to the email specified all emails sent out to the 'clubs', such as, but not limited to: Minutes of board meetings, notices of official VBCA events, meetings, motions and reports.

The VBCA Secretary is the only person who will send information / materials to clubs (as arranged between the Secretary and the club), and individuals who have expressed an interest in receiving such information (by E-Mail only). Information sent shall include, but not be limited to, Minutes of board meeting, notices of motion, VBCA elections or proposed rule changes. Any information clubs wish to distribute among the members of the association must be forwarded to the VBCA secretary, along with their reasons. The secretary shall only distribute information deemed to be in the interests of the clubs and members, and be relevant to them as members of the VBCA.

### **Part 4 - All Other Details:**

This includes any information not specifically covered above (including, but not limited to: name, club, pension number etc). This information will only be divulged to third parties by the board where it is deemed necessary or in the player's best interests. The VBCA will not sell any information to third parties or distribute personal information without consent.