

## **HEADS UP**

One of the best game control tools available is knowledge. Forewarned is forearmed.

If an umpiring crew has a contest with game control issues between teams (bean ball situations, etc.) the CBUA policy is to notify the crew working the next game involving the two teams. This can be done by notifying the assignor or checking the master schedule. This notification is the responsibility of the plate umpire, or crew chief, if one is assigned.

At the pregame meeting of the next game between the teams involved, all that needs to be said at the pregame meeting at home plate is, “We know there were some problems the last time you met, but are we correct in assuming everything will be under control today?” Or something similar. That is all that needs to be said. What we don’t want are threats. Keep it positive. Generally speaking, the next game between the two opponents is very calm because coaches are pretty good and warning their teams against a repeat. But, by all means, be alert.

The bottom line is that your local unit gains a considerable amount of credibility in that it shows the coaches that you do communicate among umpires and that you are aware of the importance of keeping games under control.