

Annual Report 2016-17

1 October 2016 - 30 September 2017



BASEBALL
VICTORIA



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Mission & Vision

VISION Be the number one state in Australia for baseball participation by being a safe, welcoming and inclusive sport

PURPOSE Provide every Victorian with the opportunity to participate in whole of sport

-
- * Increase the number of people playing baseball
 - * Achieve significant growth in female participation
 - * Increase participation numbers of people with a disability (PWD) and the culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD)
 - * Develop opportunities for involvement in alternative forms of baseball (social)
 - * Increase participation in current and future growth areas
 - * Establish a working partnership with SSV to strengthen relationships with schools
 - * Introduce baseball to 50,000 school aged children through school clinics by 2019
 - * Align advertising campaigns and awareness strategies with the Melbourne Aces
 - * Appoint charter development officers to promote BV in schools and inclusion groups
 - * Develop competition and pathway programs using the charter model to increase female participation
 - * Increase access to High Performance training philosophies and education, for athletes outside the high performance pathway who are interested in improving their standard of play
 - * Build on current partnerships to establish a club link with service providers to maximize engagement of showcase events
 - * Utilise the professional profiles of Melbourne Aces players to engage and ignite the baseball and non-baseball community
 - * Harness SSV partnership to activate baseball competition within the North and South SSSV competitions [Specialist School Sport Victoria]
 - * Use market trend and organization research to develop and activate modified social programs
 - * Support local club capacity through Aces ticket fundraising program
 - * Establish key industry partnerships to assist in resourcing social sport rollout
 - * Increase the number of opportunities for participants, coaches & umpires in development programs
 - * Grow the number & capability of the baseball workforce
 - * Provide a high value elite product which is positioned at the pinnacle of our pathway
 - * Continue to use the charter model to provide a pathway
 - * Establish a coaching advisory group to assist BV to develop strategies to improve coaching at all levels
 - * Provide the baseball workforce with access to education and resources designed to enhance quality service delivery
 - * Establish a clear aspirational link between pathway programs and the Melbourne Aces
 - * Research a long term model for HP in Victoria
 - * Provide well-structured high performance programs that support developing athletes and coaches
 - * Prioritise athlete development for national representation and participation in the ABL
 - * Ensure that all equipment and resources utilised for the HP program are current and in alignment with ABL competition standards
 - * Increase coach education for HP programs through Melbourne Aces professional baseball networks
 - * Maintain high playing standards and retain players through best practice delivery of competitions, tournaments and events
 - * Strengthen clubs to provide enjoyable & safe experiences for all participants
 - * Improve facilities to enhance participation opportunities & experiences
 - * Continue to critically review all competition structures on an annual basis to ensure they meet the needs of current and future participants
 - * Provide & promote clear pathways for all participants from grassroots programs to High Performance
 - * Support best practice in club management by promoting "Play by the Rules" for educational and support tools
 - * Develop standards and resources to support clubs and local governments to resource and maintain facilities at the appropriate level
 - * Support ongoing commitment to MBP as state facility, by ensuring access for "whole of sport" through club games, training sessions and the Melbourne Aces
 - * Audit all facilities annual to ensure they are appropriate for all members (women and PWD)
 - * Maintain focus on Melbourne Aces as key retention strategy for Victorian players returning from professional baseball
 - * Deliver professional events which focus on entertainment and participant engagement (eg. Melbourne Aces game days, LL state champs & annual BV awards nights)
 - * Work with ABL for hosting opportunities for ABL All Star Game and other marquee events
 - * Adhere to best practice governance principles
 - * Ensure organisation operations are viable and sustainable
 - * Ensure financial sustainability so we can continue to invest in our sport
 - * Review BV governance, in accordance with ASC's Sports Governance Principles
 - * Conduct annual Board Performance Evaluations Review the structure of all BV subcommittees and advisory groups
 - * Continue to review internal policies and procedures
 - * Develop best practice policies and procedures to recruit, train and retain high quality staff
 - * Identify commercial opportunities outside BV's membership and team entry fees, such as sponsorship and special events
 - * Establish, build and nurture effective relationships that enhance understanding and confidence of government agencies
 - * Encourage succession planning and gender equity on Baseball Victoria board

Baseball Victoria Directors



MYLES FOREMAN // PRESIDENT

Appointed to the Board in September 2013 Myles was elected to the role of President in February 2015. Myles brings his corporate strategic and governance experience to the role of President. Myles has over 25 years' experience in senior executive role in the Hospitality, Entertainment and Sports industries. For the past ten years' Myles has held Chief Executive roles within the Thoroughbred Racing Industry. Myles worked at Ticketmaster for more than 10 years in a range of positions including Head of Markets & Development, General Manager - ticketmaster.com.au, Operations Manager and Chief Information Officer. A rower and rowing coach in his youth Myles became involved in the sport of baseball through his kids, becoming a junior coordinator and club Vice President before resigning to join the Baseball Victoria Board.



SCOTT DAWES // VICE PRESIDENT

Involved in baseball for over 35 years, Scott has played or coached in Victoria at Doncaster, Sunshine, Cheltenham, Waverley & Greenhills Montmorency clubs and a life member of GMBC. Scott also starred on the national and international stage representing Victoria at the national championships as a junior from 1986 - 1989 and Australia at the 1989 and 1990 World Championships. As a senior, Scott played in all 10 seasons of the first incarnation of the ABL with the Waverley/Melbourne Reds and played for Victoria post-ABL until 2002. He's won four Claxton Shields and represented Australia at the 1993 Asian Series, the 1994 and 1998 World Championships and the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta.



JAMES VAN BEEK // SECRETARY & FINANCE

From his appointment in September 2014 James assumed responsibility for the portfolio of Director of Finance bringing with him a record of more than 12 years of success in financial management and elevating operational efficiency in high level professional sporting organisations. James' experience encompasses strategic planning and operational implementation within two AFL clubs as well as the racing and wagering industry.



SHEILA NGUYEN // MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

Dr Sheila Nguyen is the Director of the Master of Business (Sport Management) Program at Deakin University and has a PhD in Sport Management from Florida State University (USA), specialising in corporate social orientation and stakeholder management with ongoing research interests including corporate social responsibility, environmental responsibility, measurement and research design. Sheila has had experience working with licensing/marketing (PGA Tour, USA), corporate consulting (William Morris Agency, Beverly Hills, USA) and worked as part of the broadcasting team at the 2010 Asian Games with clients such as NHK, Al-Jazeera, KBS, & CCTV.



GEOFF PEARCE // HIGH PERFORMANCE & FACILITIES

Geoff assumed responsibility for the portfolio of Director of High Performance in February 2015. Geoff's first step into the baseball business world was in 1996 as owner of the Melbourne Reds, a team in the original Australian Baseball League. In 1999 he joined the Australian Baseball Federation board as a Director, becoming President in 2006 and serving until 2012.



SONIA HEATH // INCLUSION (RESIGNED NOV 2017)

Sonia brings a unique blend of sporting and career experience that combines Olympic (Beijing) representation honours with senior leadership roles in media, government, and the not-for-profit sector. A communications professional with almost 20 years industry knowledge, Sonia has worked as a television journalist, radio journalist, and political media advisor and is currently a Senior Communications Manager with the Victorian Government. Sonia has a natural affinity for elite sports, including baseball, and she believes strongly in fostering inclusion, particularly at the grass roots level.



CRAIG ARMSTEAD // MEMBER SERVICES

Appointed In May 2015, Craig has a diverse background across both the Sporting and Consumer Goods industries, with significant experience in Finance, Marketing and General Management. Within the sporting environment he's been Consumer Business Manager with the Geelong Cats (AFL), General Manager - Marketing & Sales with the South Dragons basketball Club (National Basketball League) and is currently General Manager - Clubs & Membership Development with Greyhound Racing Victoria. In all of these roles Craig has held direct management of the Membership function, with a heavy focus on member services and growth.

JOANNA O'CONNOR // INCLUSION (APPOINTED NOV 2017)

Baseball Victoria Board & Staff

BASEBALL VICTORIA HEAD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT (PORTFOLIO: BASEBALL AUSTRALIA, ABL & ASSOCIATIONS)	MYLES FOREMAN
VICE PRESIDENT (PORTFOLIO: PATHWAYS, COMPETITIONS & TOURNAMENTS)	SCOTT DAWES
SECRETARY (PORTFOLIO: FINANCE, ASSOCIATION SECRETARY)	JAMES VAN BEEK
DIRECTOR (PORTFOLIO: MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS)	SHEILA NGUYEN
DIRECTOR (PORTFOLIO: HIGH PERFORMANCE & FACILITIES)	GEOFF PEARCE
DIRECTOR (PORTFOLIO: INCLUSION)	SONIA HEATH (RESIGNED NOV 2017)
DIRECTOR (PORTFOLIO: MEMBER SERVICE)	CRAIG ARMSTEAD
DIRECTOR (PORTFOLIO: INCLUSION)	JOANNA O'CONNOR (APPOINTED NOV 2017)

BASEBALL VICTORIA STAFF

GENERAL MANAGER	ASHLEY BLAIR (RESIGNED JUNE 2017)
CEO	JUSTIN HUBER (COMMENCED JULY 2017)
GENERAL MANAGER BASEBALL OPERATIONS	JEFF PAUL (COMMENCED OCT 2017)
HIGH PERFORMANCE MANAGER	DAMIAN SHANAHAN
COMMUNICATIONS & DIGITAL MARKETING MANAGER	JOEL MACKENZIE (RESIGNED JAN 2018)
COMPETITIONS COORDINATOR	CHRIS MAYNE (RESIGNED NOV 2017)
COMPETITIONS COORDINATOR	KELSEY QUINN (COMMENCED NOV 2017)
EVENTS & OPERATIONS MANAGER	SAMANTHA CREED
PARTICIPATION & WOMEN'S PROGRAM OFFICER	BRONWYN GELL (RESIGNED JULY 2017)
UMPIRE DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR	STEWART HOWE
FINANCE COORDINATOR	LES FLOWER
NCAS COORDINATOR	GREG TINKLER (COMMENCED AUG 2017)
COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS MANAGER	MICHELLE BREWSTER
SCHOOLS PROGRAM COORDINATOR	MATT WHYTE (COMMENCED JUNE 2017)

Baseball Victoria Working Groups & Sub Committees

FINANCE & AUDIT SUB COMMITTEE

James van Beek (Chair)	Board Representative
Myles Foreman	Board Representative
Justin Huber*	Staff Representative
Ashley Blair*	Staff Representative
Les Flower	Staff Representative

NOMINATIONS SUB COMMITTEE

Myles Foreman (Chair)	Board Representative
James van Beek	Board Representative
Scott Dawes	Board Representative
Sonia Heath*	Board Representative

COMMERCIAL SUB COMMITTEE

Craig Armstead (Chair)	Board Representative
Justin Huber*	Staff Representative
Ashley Blair*	Staff Representative
Michelle Brewster	Staff Representative
Joel Mackenzie*	Staff Representative

RISK & GOVERNANCE SUB COMMITTEE

Myles Foreman (Chair)	Board Representative
Scott Dawes	Board Representative
James van Beek	Board Representative
Justin Huber*	Staff Representative
Ashley Blair*	Staff Representative

SUMMER LEAGUE REVIEW WORKING GROUP (ON HOLD)

WHOLE OF SPORT WORKING GROUP (ON HOLD)

Baseball Victoria thanks all volunteer members of working groups and committees for their contribution of time, experience, and passion to assist with growing and improving the sport.

WOMEN & GIRL'S WORKING GROUP

Joanna O'Connor (Chair)*	Board Representative
Sonia Heath (Chair)*	Board Representative
Bronwyn Gell*	Staff Representative
Victoria Brown	Community Representative
Meghan Mayman	Community Representative
Alicia Pentreath*	Community Representative
Lynn Fraser	Community Representative
Paul Hung*	Community Representative
Brian Sinfield*	Community Representative

BASEBALL OPERATIONS

Scott Dawes (Chair)	Board Representative
Damian Shanahan	Staff Representative
Grant Weir*	Community Representative
Andy Rose	Community Representative
Michelle De Highden	Community Representative
Neil Burke	Community Representative
Michael Crooks	Community Representative
Micheal Nakamura	Community Representative

CHARTER WORKING GROUP

Jeff Paul (Chair)	Staff Representative
Kelsey Quinn	Staff Representative
Scott Dawes	Board Representative
Damian Shanahan	Board Representative
Stephen Pahos	President - Eastern Athletics
Rick Wills	President - Southern Mariners
Tony Schibeci	President - Northern Twins
Grant Drew	President - Geelong Baycats

BASEBALL VICTORIA TRIBUNAL

John Holmes (Chair)
Ula Struss
David Milton
James Dimer
Stefan Bagg

*Resigned or Appointed during the reporting period

Baseball Leagues & Clubs in Victoria

BV SUMMER LEAGUE

Ballarat City*
Berwick City*
Blackburn*
Bonbeach*
Bundoora*
Carrum Downs*
Chelsea*
Cheltenham*
Crovdon*
Doncaster*
Essendon*
Fitzroy*
Footscray*
Geelong*
Heathmont*
Malvern*
Melbourne*
Monash University*
Moorabbin*
Mornington*
Mulgrave*
Newport*
North Coburg*
North Western Titans*
Ormond Glenhuntly*
Pakenham*
Port Melbourne*
Preston*
Research*
Sandringham*
Springvale*
St Kilda*
Sunshine*
Upwey Ferntree Gully*
Waverly*
Werribee*
Williamstown*

BENDIGO BASEBALL ASSOCIATION*

Bendigo East
Falcons
Scots
Strathfieldsaye
Dodgers

DANDENONG BASEBALL ASSOCIATION*

Berwick
Bonbeach
Boneo
Chelsea
Cheltenham
Dandenong
Dingley
Footscray
Frankston
Latrobe University
Melbourne University
Monash University
Moorabbin
Mornington
Ormond Glenhuntly
Pakenham

GEELONG BASEBALL ASSOCIATION*

Alfredton
Bacchus Marsh
Bellarine
Colac
Corio
Deakin
East Belmont
Guild
Lara
Mounties YC
Werribee

LATROBE VALLEY BASEBALL ASSOCIATION*

Churchill
Moe/Newborough
Morwell
Sale
Traralgon

BASEBALL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA*

MELBOURNE WINTER BASEBALL LEAGUE*

Bundoora
Cheltenham
Crovdon
Diamond Creek
Doncaster
Essendon
Footscray
Forest Hill
Glen Iris
Greenhills Montmorency
Greensborough
Heathmont
Knox
La Trove University
Melbourne University
Mitchel Majors
Monash University
North Balwyn
North Coburg
Northcote
Panton Hill
Port Melbourne
Research Lower Plenty
Ringwood
St Kilda
Watsonia
Waverley
Westgarth
Wheelers Hill
Upwey Ferntree Gully

NORTH EASTERN BASEBALL ASSOCIATION*

Albury
Benalla
Porepunkah
Wangaratta
Wodonga

SUNRAYSA BASEBALL LEAGUE*

Eagles
Hawks
Saints
Tigers
Tornadoes
Wanderers

*Voting member of Baseball Victoria



President's Report

MYLES FOREMAN
PRESIDENT // BASEBALL VICTORIA

THE OPERATIONS OF THE BASEBALL VICTORIA BOARD

THE BOARD

I like so many in our sport volunteer my time because I want to help ensure our sport prospers and as many Victorian's as possible our introduced to the great game of baseball and the fantastic Victorian baseball community. This can mean different things to different people and as a consequence opinions on how we achieve growth and sustainability may vary significantly and despite sharing a common purpose we often pull against each other rather than pulling together.

All members of the Baseball Victoria Board are volunteers and importantly include a cross section of individuals from within and outside the baseball community ensuring a diversity of skills and ideas. Like so many volunteers in our baseball community from club, charter and association committees, coaches, scorers, grounds crew, canteen staff and so many more we all believe passionately in the sport.

I take this opportunity on behalf of the Victorian baseball community to thank all the members of the Baseball Victoria Board for your tireless dedication and commitment of time to the Board, Working Groups and Committees. Baseball Victoria Directors; Scott Dawes (Vice President), James van Beek (Secretary & Finance), Craig Armstead (Member Services), Sheila Nguyen (Marketing & Communications).

Thank you also to Director Sonia Heath (Inclusion) who joined the Board in 2015 and made a significant contribution to the Board and the Inclusion portfolio before resigning in 2017 to relocate overseas. Thank you also to Director Geoff Pearce (High Performance & Facilities) who retires at the conclusion of the 2018 Annual General Meeting. Geoff has a long involvement with baseball as President of the Australian Baseball Federation from 2006-2012 and as a Director of the Australian Baseball League until 2015 when he joined the Board of Baseball Victoria. Geoff will continue to play a significant role in baseball as the Chair of the Melbourne Ballpark Committee of Management which manages the Melbourne Ballpark on behalf of the Victorian State Government.

WORKING GROUPS

The team in the Baseball Victoria Office all equally believe in the sport and also bring a diverse set of skills and experience. The Board and Baseball Victoria Office team know we cannot achieve our strategic objectives alone and nor do we have all the answers to address our challenges. Therefore as part of the Baseball Victoria strategy, throughout the year the Board of Baseball Victoria has continued to ensure the Victorian Baseball Community has structured opportunities to contribute to the day to day operations of the sport and the strategic development of the sport by tapping into the extensive skills, passion and experience via a number of Working Groups.

“The Board and Baseball Victoria Office team know we cannot achieve our strategic objectives alone and nor do we have all the answers to address our challenges.”

President's Report

MYLES FOREMAN

PRESIDENT // BASEBALL VICTORIA

The focus and structure of these Working Groups and the areas which require short and longer term attention have continued to be reviewed and evolve throughout the year.

During the year the Summer League Review Working Group and Whole of Sport Working Groups were put on hold as separate Working Groups and the objectives of these Working Groups incorporated into operation of the other Working Groups. The Summer League Review and the Whole of Sport focus continue to be important and will continue to be addressed throughout 2018.

The Baseball Operations Working Group Chaired by Baseball Victoria Vice President Scott Dawes and whose members include a cross section of experienced baseball people has continued to review and develop the basic operations of baseball from competition structure to rules.

From this Working Group and a review of the Charters following the 2016-2017 season a new Charter Working Group was established prior to the start of the 2017-2018 season to act as a central contact point to support the development of junior baseball and assist Charters in achieving their strategic goals of Gain, Train, Retain and Sustain.

The key responsibilities of the Working Group are to:

- a) Ensure alignment with the overarching philosophy of junior baseball
- b) Ensure consistency in the delivery of Charter programs across Victoria
- c) Provide a central point of contact for key stakeholders
- d) Help coordinate junior baseball activities via each Charter Committee
- e) Help identify junior coaching and umpiring needs and opportunities within each Charter

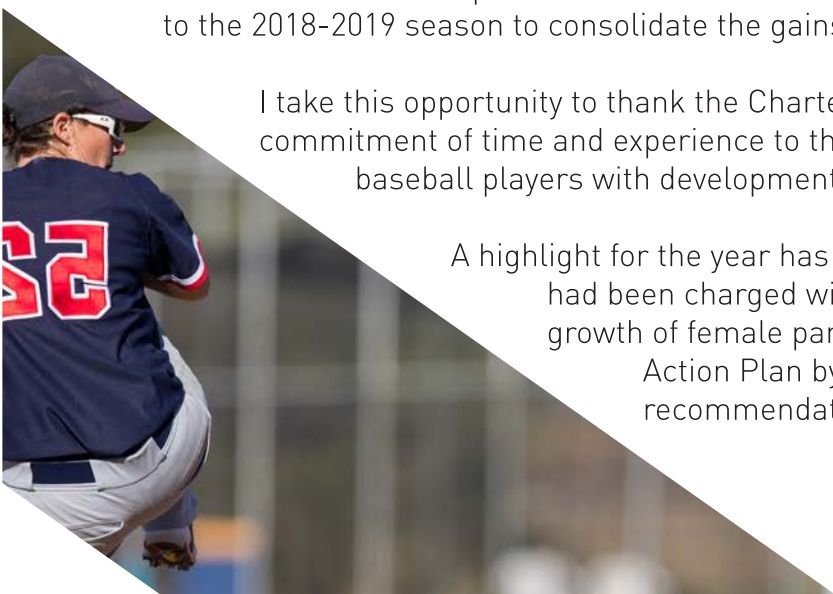
Chaired by the Baseball Victoria GM Baseball Operations Jeff Paull, and membership includes each Charter President, Baseball Victoria Office and Board representation. This Working Group has worked hard to clearly define the objectives of the Charters to develop players first and foremost and to deliver consistency of program delivery across each Charter.

This has resulted in some improvements for the 2017-2018 Charters but we will have much work prior to the 2018-2019 season to consolidate the gains of this season and further improve.

I take this opportunity to thank the Charter Committees Coaches and volunteers for your commitment of time and experience to the development of the Charters to provide junior baseball players with development opportunities.

A highlight for the year has been the Women & Girls Working Group which had been charged with the task of bringing focus and structure to the growth of female participation in Victoria. The release of the Inclusive Action Plan by the Working Group included 24 recommendations which were all adopted by the Board.

The 24 recommendations were developed in consultation with the Victorian baseball community and Vic Sport.



President's Report

MYLES FOREMAN
PRESIDENT // BASEBALL VICTORIA

The Inclusion Action Plan included defining the vision as follows: "to improve gender equality in our sport and develop female participation and leadership opportunities on and off the field".

Thank you to retired Director Sonia Heath who chaired this working group and to the members of the working group who developed a sport leading Inclusion Action Plan.

Participation by members of the Victorian baseball community is always encouraged and I take this opportunity to all members of working groups and committees for your active participation in improving baseball in Victoria.

REPRESENTATION OF BASEBALL VICTORIA

BASEBALL AUSTRALIA COUNCIL

Baseball Victoria is a Member of Baseball Australia along with each State Baseball Association. The President of Baseball Victoria represents Victorian Baseball at Baseball Australia Council meetings. Outside the formal structure of the Baseball Australia Council, State Baseball Association Presidents and State Baseball Associations CEO's and Australian Baseball League team GM's collaborate regularly on state, national and international matters.

VICTORIAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

With Baseball and Softball returning to the Olympic platform in Tokyo 2020, Baseball Australia and Softball Australia were recognised as the Australian National Federation and member of the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC).

Their admission as a Constituted Body of the AOC entitled Baseball Victoria and Softball Victoria as the State Bodies to become a Constituted Body and Member of the Victorian Olympic Council (VOC).

Baseball Victoria's delegate representative to the VOC is the President of Baseball Victoria.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT MELBOURNE BALLPARK

Baseball Victoria has in recent year's renegotiated rental arrangements at Melbourne Ballpark which has enabled additional usage of the facility and resulted in Baseball Victoria investing in the development of the facilities for Baseball Victoria programs. This will culminate with the relocation of Baseball Victoria office in early 2018.

Recent changes to the structure of the Committee of Management ensure both Baseball and Softball each have a representative on the Committee of Management. Given the importance of this facility the Vice President of Baseball Victoria is our sports representative.

Much maligned by the Victorian baseball community over many years, Melbourne Ballpark continues to be the only facility recognised and funded by the Victorian State Government as a State Sporting Facility. To drive increased investment in this facility and others continued commitment and maximising utilisation of the facility remains key to Baseball Victoria's strategy.

President's Report

MYLES FOREMAN

PRESIDENT // BASEBALL VICTORIA

WORLD BASEBALL SOFTBALL CONFEDERATION

On the international stage Baseball Victoria's CEO Justin Huber was reappointed as a member of the International Olympic Committees Athletes' Commission to represent Baseball via the World Baseball Softball Confederation which is recognised as the sole competent authority in Baseball and Softball by the International Olympic Committee.

Through this role Justin is able to maintain a number of international relationships which provide access to how baseball operates in other countries further assisting in development of Baseball Victoria's strategic development.

INDEPENDENT STRUCTURAL REVIEW

The past twelve months have once again seen significant turnover of staff in the Baseball Victoria Office. With the departure of Baseball Victoria General Manager Ashley Blair in May 2017 the Board resolved to commission an independent structural review of the Baseball Victoria Office.

The commissioning of an independent review in accordance with governance best practice ensured the Board was provided with independent recommendations in order to address reasons for the turnover in order to achieve an improved outcome for the entire Victorian Baseball Community across the whole of the sport.

Melbourne-based consulting group Sport Business Partners (SBP) were appointed and after more than 150 hours of stakeholder consultation, SBP provided a list of robust and specific recommendations.

In addition to being published for the Victorian Baseball Community to review the recommendations were also presented in detail at a meeting of President & Secretaries prior to the commencement of the 2017/18 Victorian Summer League season.



President's Report

MYLES FOREMAN

PRESIDENT // BASEBALL VICTORIA

KEY SBP RECOMMENDATIONS

- Appoint an experienced State Sporting Organisation General Manager / CEO to lead Baseball Victoria over the next 3-4 years.
- Reset the vision & strategy for the Organisation. SBP recommend taking a 'less is more' approach (prioritising club development) to ensure the focus of the organisation is clear and easily understood by all staff and stakeholders.
- Reset all staff roles & job descriptions with the recommended staff structure. This should be a collaborative process with staff and the new CEO.
- Review Board roles & responsibilities to ensure the appropriate amount of support and feedback is provided to the new CEO. This is critical to set the team up for success and it is expected the new CEO will be capable to become more autonomous in the role than previous GMs.
- Establish a clear set of organisational values (with corresponding behavioural expectations) for which the Board and staff will commit to in their roles.
- Cultivate a value-creation mindset within the office. Staff should be empowered and challenged constantly to identify opportunities to add value of the working environment and relate strongly to club development and communications school programs & commercial opportunities.
- Once the staff transition and new strategy is completed, it will be an opportune time for the Board and staff to celebrate and establish a common understanding for the future direction of the sport in Victoria.

All of the above recommendations were adopted by the BV Board and along with the Baseball Victoria office they have or are in the process of being implemented to deliver long term sustainable improvements to help achieve the goals of Baseball Victoria to (1) Gain, (2) Train, (3) Retain, and (4) Sustain.

APPOINTMENT OF BASEBALL VICTORIA CEO & OPERATIONAL ALIGNMENT OF BASEBALL VICTORIA / MELBOURNE ACES

Having filled the role of acting Baseball Victoria GM in addition to his responsibilities as GM of the Melbourne Aces following the departure of Ashley Blair, the Board moved quickly upon the release of the SBP recommendations to ratify the operational alignment of Baseball Victoria and Melbourne Aces staff by the appointment of a joint CEO in Justin Huber.

Justin is well known for his on-field exploits after signing his first professional contract in 2000 with the New York Mets and becoming the 20th Australian to reach Major League level when he debuted for the Kansas City Royals on June 21, 2005. Following his retirement as a player in 2015, Justin had spent two seasons as General Manager of the Melbourne Aces following time with Baseball Victoria as Game Development Manager. During the two seasons under Justin's leadership the Melbourne Aces transformed into one of the ABL's most financially sustainable franchises. Finishing the 2016/2017 regular season with the ABL's best record and hosting the Championship Series for the first time. Having spent the first part of his career playing club baseball in Victoria, Justin is uniquely positioned to combine his detailed knowledge and understanding of club baseball and what makes it tick with an international understanding of baseball and what we can learn from to grow the game of baseball in Victoria.

President's Report

MYLES FOREMAN

PRESIDENT // BASEBALL VICTORIA

Since his appointment Justin has focused on delivering the key recommendations of the SBP review which puts in place structures to improve the experience and value to our participants whether a player, a parent, a spectator, a volunteer or a casual consumer and we have an obligation to deliver a strategy that enables both quality and growth. The Chief Executive Officers Report contains more detail on the significant structural and people changes in the Baseball Victoria Office.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank former GM Ashley Blair for his two years of service as Baseball Victoria GM which was preceded by four years in various roles for Baseball Victoria.

More recently I take the opportunity to thank Justin Huber and the Baseball Victoria Office team who have embraced the long overdue changes within the office which during a time of transition have placed significant pressure on the team which has in turn impacted the Victorian baseball Community both positively and negatively.

THE FUTURE

The previous two years Presidents Reports have focused heavily on the rebuild of key relationships and the turnaround of Baseball Victoria financial position from loss to surplus.

This core foundational rebuild has continued throughout the year with the ongoing fulfilment of these strategies. The departure of Ashley Blair as GM mid 2017 and the subsequent review and update of structure and staff turnover has meant that for much of the second half of 2017 the Baseball Victoria Office team were in a rebuild phase which paused strategic development for prioritisation of operational delivery.

As detailed in the CEO's Report, throughout August and October 2017 the Board along with the newly appointed CEO Justin Huber reviewed and updated the BV Strategic Plan. Baseball not for a want of trying and many hours of effort by many has stagnated over many years despite its potential and appeal. Turning around the foundations of our sport has taken time and our work is not complete.

The appointment of Justin Huber as CEO, development of an enhanced strategic plan along with the restructure of the Baseball Victoria Office team, recruitment of new staff and relocation of the office to Melbourne Ballpark all setup Victorian baseball for a period of strong leadership by Baseball Victoria building upon the strong foundations laid over recent years.

Finally and most importantly thank you to every member of the Victorian baseball community, club and association volunteers, players, coaches and umpires for your collective contributions of time, knowledge and passion for the game. Without volunteers powering our sport we would not have a sport which attracts and retains players and community members.

MYLES FOREMAN, PRESIDENT





CEO's Report

JUSTIN HUBER
CEO // BASEBALL VICTORIA/MELBOURNE ACES

I am genuinely humbled and honoured to be reporting to you as the CEO of Baseball Victoria for 2017-18.

Baseball Victoria has experienced significant change over the last 12 months. Whilst challenging, uncomfortable at times, we move forward with purpose and clear direction, with an enormous amount to look forward to in the year ahead.

WITH THANKS

Baseball Victoria farewelled a number of staff in 2017 and it is with a world of gratitude that I acknowledge their selfless contribution to our sport.

Bronwyn Gell	Participation and Womens Program Coordinator
Chris Mayne	Competitions Manager
Ashley Blair	General Manager
Ray Baker	Interim Competitions Coordinator
Joel Mackenzie	Digital Media and Communications Manager
Simeon Pantelich	Membership and Game Day Coordinator, Aces
Jackson Brett	Baseball Operations Manager, Aces

“This appointment created the first real opportunity to fully operationalise the BV and Aces teams, causing an elimination of duplication, scaled resourcing and the legitimacy previously missing from our “whole of sport” mission.”

TRICKY BUSINESS

Baseball Victoria as a business met with significant challenges this year. With a high turnover of staff, production from the key commercial drivers created inefficiencies across the business in competition management, pathways, participation and baseball operations.

As a result the BV Directors took action to address an obvious and ongoing risk, appointing an outside consultant – Sports Business Partners, to investigate and prepare a strategy for the future.

After an extensive review period, the final report was adopted and published by the Directors in July, setting in motion a number of key changes to the business. The first of those being my employment as the joint CEO of Baseball Victoria and the Melbourne Aces.

This appointment created the first real opportunity to fully operationalise the BV and Aces teams, causing an elimination of duplication, scaled resourcing and the legitimacy previously missing from our “whole of sport” mission. For the first time, the BV office felt that our collective strengths could be capitalised on across both operations, and our weaknesses could be improved with the support from a structure that allowed for growth and change.

CEO's Report

JUSTIN HUBER
CEO // BASEBALL VICTORIA/MELBOURNE ACES

TIME TO CHANGE

With the vision in place the Directors met together six times in July and August to update the BV Strategic Plan 2016-19, and support me to restructure the BV office with the resources needed to make the integrated vision come to life.

Two brand new departments were created for Events and Commercial Operations, supported by the reaffirmation of our Participation and High Performance departments.

Additional staff were employed, as well as new roles created for existing staff. Samantha Creed moved from Office Administrator to Events Manager. Jeff Paull was newly appointed as General Manager of Baseball Operations, looking after both the Participation and High Performance departments. While Michelle Brewster who had previously volunteered in marketing and commercial operations of BV and the Aces, took over the full time role as Commercial Manager.

Supporting each department, the Digital Marketing and Communications Manager Joel Mackenzie, moved into a broad underpinning role. Joel managed all outbound communication streams as well as our brand through multiple media channels.

HIGH ASPIRATIONS

While we have taken some significant leaps forward in a short period of time, a fully functioning and integrated office designed to improve output and develop a strong corporate culture remains our ongoing vision.

Having proven their intentions over the last six months, the Directors continue to be fully committed to resourcing this vision in the year ahead. The most immediate example of this commitment will be seen in the early part of 2018 when BV completes a whole office relocation to Melbourne Ballpark.

Further to this move we will continue to aspire to an organisational structure capable of achieving our lofty expectations for the future. The addition of human resources in key positions within the organisation will be seen, along with a reinvigorated working group structure designed to increase capacity and empower volunteers in key roles.



CEO's Report

JUSTIN HUBER
CEO // BASEBALL VICTORIA/MELBOURNE ACES

WHAT ABOUT CLUBS, COMPETITIONS AND REGIONAL VICTORIA?

Over the last six months in this role, assessing the heartbeat of our organisation has become a daily function. Recognising that without clubs, the layers of volunteers, administrators, and the participants that dutifully turn up week in and week out to play, we would be left with merely the bats and the balls.

This understanding continues to challenge the status quo and leads our organisation to strive for a better value proposition for new and returning participants.

I can't say that I'm satisfied with how our competitions ran this year, and I can't say our regional development strategy breathed new life into our traditional strongholds. However I can say that entry into clubs, experience drivers throughout our pathways and good old fashioned value for money, will receive our total focus and remain the backbone to the strategic pillars that underpin our sport - GAIN, TRAIN, RETAIN, SUSTAIN.

AS FOR THE ACES

“This understanding continues to challenge the status quo and leads our organisation to strive for a better value proposition for new and returning participants.”

Our Melbourne Aces played their eight season of the present Australian Baseball League in 2017/18. Lead by our home grown Victorian team Manager - Jon Deeble, the Aces finished 4th in the regular season.

For Baseball Australia the ABL is still the number one strategy for growth in participation and awareness in Australia. For this reason Baseball Victoria continues to throw our collective weight behind this strategy and strive to outperform our neighbours on and off the field.

With possible expansion and privatisation on the horizon, the ABL will head into a busy offseason with many unknowns. For the Aces this means a busy time too, with the usual challenges to consider like staffing, recruitment, revenue and game day operations.

Having said this, we believe team growth rests on our connection to the community, and despite all the possibilities the future may bring, our focus will remain on community building, and providing the best value sports entertainment product money can buy.

...AND OF COURSE A CLAXTON SHEILD IN 2019.

JUSTIN HUBER, CEO





Baseball Operations Report

JEFF PAULL
GM BASEBALL OPERATIONS
// BASEBALL VICTORIA

As part of the changes at Baseball Victoria, our focus has been on aligning operations with the BV strategic plan to deliver long term sustainable growth and development of the sport with measurable outcomes. Kelsey Quinn has come on board as the new Competitions Coordinator and is an excellent addition to the team. We are currently searching for a new Digital Media specialist.

BASEBALL OPERATIONS TEAM

Damian Shanahan - High Performance Manager

Greg Tinkler - NCAS Coordinator

Matt Whyte - School Sports Coordinator

Stewart Howe - Umpire Development Coordinator

Kelsey Quinn - Competitions Coordinator

Much of my time since joining BV in October has been spent dealing with disputes and errors within the VSBL and Charters.

While time consuming it has highlighted a number of integrity and procedure issues that we have begun to address and will continue to do so over the next twelve months, especially with regards to the application of competition rules and by-laws.

Charter Development Officers were not reengaged this season and a new charter development program will be rolled out in 2018. The impact Charter Development officers were having was minimal given the small budget they had to operate with, and there was limited success in converting participants to becoming club members or longer-term players.

The new program will move our effort back to grass roots level working in conjunction with clubs and focusing on club led initiatives. A grant scheme will commence in 2018 to support clubs in delivering these initiatives and in turn driving membership growth.

Over the past year BV reached over 3,000 school children, attended sports industry showcase events and government conferences.

We have maintained funding through Supporting Victorian Sport and Recreation (SVSR) program. Ensuring Baseball Victoria has the resources to deliver positive outcomes for all programs is vital to the ongoing sustainable growth of the sport.

Baseball Operations Report

JEFF PAULL

GENERAL MANAGER BASEBALL OPERATIONS // BASEBALL VICTORIA

Implementation of the Women and Girls inclusive action plan remains a priority for 2018. While female participation continues to grow, we still have a long way to go to achieve our targets. We still have much work to do to ensure all clubs embrace inclusion of women and girls in our sport.

Growth of our junior charters is fundamental to the growth of the sport and clubs, I urge all clubs to revisit their junior programs and see what they can do better, how can BV assist your club to do better? How can we consider a better use of resources to grow participation.

The clubs doing this are the ones seeing long term success.

Finally, the Melbourne's ACES remain the pinnacle of our high performance pathway in Victoria, every junior player should be aspiring to one day play for the ACES. We have been fortunate to have Jon Deeble as manager and along with his coaching the team he has put a lot of work into our youth teams. Giving 24 Australian Youth Players of the future an opportunity to train alongside former MLB players is giving them experience that will be invaluable to them and their clubs. This is one way that the ACES are giving back to the clubs.



Baseball Operations Report

JEFF PAULL

GENERAL MANAGER BASEBALL OPERATIONS // BASEBALL VICTORIA

GAIN

An integral aspect of the strategic plan is to gain new participants and develop new streams to encourage new members to join clubs. As part of this, Baseball Victoria collaborate with numerous community groups and organisations;

- Established a women's round in the VSL Schedule.
- Female participation continues to grow at 10%
- 250+ males and females between the ages of 6-15 participated the ACES Baseball buddies program
- 30 students of all ages from SCOPE completed a four-week modified baseball inclusion program
- 42 Schools through the Sporting Schools National funding schemes
- Junior Charter program continues to evolve with growth of 4% over the past year

TRAIN

With quality program offerings at the bedrock of the Baseball Victoria strategic plan, we need to continue to ensure all people delivering programs are provided with opportunities to develop their skills. As part of this outcome, Baseball Victoria attracted;

- 212 coaches currently accredited through the National Coaching Accreditation Scheme; 11% Female, 70 players participated in the Aces Academy and 180 juniors participated in the Charter Academies, 11 Players were selected to attend the MLB Australian Academy on the Gold Coast, 12 Victorians represents Australia in tournaments around the world
- Seven clubs completed the VicHealth funded Healthy choices program, where clubs are supported to offer healthy menu items at their canteen
- Development of umpires and scorers is an on-going issue for most sports and baseball is no different. Stewart with the support of the BUAV and the Scorers Assoc. conducted training sessions throughout the year. Adopting new technology such as electronic scoring is a priority moving forward

RETAIN

Baseball Victoria must continue to provide a quality experience to maintain our membership.

The following programs highlight a fantastic year for the sport in Victoria:

- Four Victorian teams entered to the Australian Little League Championships – the most in Victorian Little League history
- A girl's charter tournament run in line with the State Little League Championships, leading to a Women's winter academy and the second junior girl's baseball competition
- Baseball Victoria included in the National Club Championship Planning Committee Planning
- Unfortunately, the planned Summer League All Star Game had to be cancelled due to extreme weather. It will be back in 2018/19
- 3 Junior sports camps were conducted throughout the year and continue to grow in numbers.

SUSTAIN

- Melbourne Aces have finished the regular season in 4th place
- Over 70 VIC club players have trained with the ACES
- A change of bats and balls has seen records smashed in all categories
- Average home game attendance of 1100
- Police v Fire brigade pre-game was our highest attended game
- Softball back at the park with two pregame matches
- Unfortunately, the men's and women's VBSL All-star games were cancelled due to extreme weather, but they will be back next year



Baseball Operations Report

DAMIAN SHANAHAN
HIGH PERFORMANCE
//BASEBALL VICTORIA

The High-Performance Pathway in Victoria is part of the National Development Program. At the entry level of the Charter Academies through to the National Senior Team the goal of the program is:

- Increase the talent pool available to National team selection
- Increase the success of the National Team in International events
- Assist players to leverage the available baseball pathways into college and professional baseball

STATES TEAMS- TOURNAMENT RESULTS

The Under-16, Under-18, and Open Women's and Youth Women's Championships all featured Victorian teams in 2017.

Under 16 White	- 6th
Under 16 Blue	- GOLD
Under 18 White	- 6th
Under 18 Blue	- 5th
Youth Women's	- SILVER
Women's White	- 7th
Women's Blue	- GOLD

The positive results in the state program reflect the skill and hard work of the entire high-performance team and all the coaches and staff of Baseball Victoria who took part in the High-Performance program in 2017.

NATIONAL ACADEMIES / EVENTS

Several Victorians participated in National Academy and International Events in 2017. These programs are developed through a partnership with MLB International and Baseball Australia and are part of the National Development Pathway opportunities.

MLB AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY - GOLD COAST

In its 18th year these players had the opportunity to attend this prestigious program
Jarryd Dale, Matthew Beattie, Jordy Barnett, Jamie Young, Liam Evans, Blake Townsend, Ciaran Parmer, Chris Burke, Aiden Willis, Jackson Boyd, Rhys De Highden

MLB 14U INVITATIONAL – LISMORE

A new initiative between BA and MLB International. After a National Showcase of over 500 athletes (140 in Victoria) these players attended the first MLB 14U Program in Lismore:

Jacob Bald, Charlie Collins, Harry Garrett, Blake Holding, Trenell Hutchins, Kazhimi Naim Jaycob Pascuzzi, Pharell Peni, Cooper Rickard, Keeley Ronalds – Greatbatch, Connor Schibeci McLeod Sell, Nathan Smith, Mitch Thomas, Finn Weichard, Matthew West

SPRING TRAINING TRIP

Part of the World Select Team these players spent 10 days in Florida exposed to the daily rigors of Professional Baseball designed to further the development of our elite youth:

Jarryd Dale, Aiden Willis, Jackson Boyd

US COLLEGE SHOWCASE TRIP

In conjunction with MLB International these players had the opportunity to showcase to US college programs:

Jackson Boyd, Jamie Young

Baseball Operations Report

DAMIAN SHANAHAN
HIGH PERFORMANCE // BASEBALL VICTORIA

YOMURI CUP

A WBSC sanctioned Invitational Tournament held in Japan for 15U Players. These Victorians were selected as part of the Australian Team:

Henry Hayman, Riley Light, Keenan Spence, Jarryd Wood

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

2017 was an outstanding year for High Performance Baseball in Victoria and Australia with a large number of Victorian players given the honour of representing their country in tournaments around the world. Their contribution was part of the success of the National Program that saw Australia ranked a historic high of 7th in the World World Baseball Classic:

Brad Harman, Peter Moylan, James Beresford, Mike Walker, Travis Blackley, Jon Kennedy

18U WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

Jackson Boyd, Jarryd Dale, Jamie Young, Jordy Barnett

12U WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

Cameron Bieker, Ryan Langworth

PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS (MLB AND OTHER)

James Beresford
Travis Blackley
Ryan Dale
Jarryd Dale
John Kennedy
Sam Street
Daniel McGrath
Peter Moylan
Lewis Thorpe
Daryl George
Matthew Beattie

US COLLEGE

*Participants of High Performance Program
Liam Spence
Mitch Holding
Ben Aslett
Mitch Ellis
George Calill
Chase Hodkinson
Jack Enciondo
Max Barrett
Mitchell Wilcox
Jack Giles
Will Day
Samuel Trend-Beacon



Baseball Operations Report

GREG TINKLER
GAME DEVELOPMENT // BASEBALL VICTORIA

Greg Tinkler commenced in August 2017 as a part-time volunteer, to look after the NCAS program for BV.

The initial focus was on getting the documentation process around the BV NCAS program on a more formal footing, which has helped to identify gaps in the current accreditation records. These gaps are being worked through to ensure those coaches are correctly documented.

Baseball Australia and the Australian Sport Commission are altering the NCAS program, now renamed CEP - "Coaching Education Program" to better reflect the newer approach of training the coaches rather than just assessing them.

This change is now visible in Victoria with the programs and events that we have started to run and plan for.

The first was the inaugural "Women's Leadership and Coaching day", held 16th September 2017, as a direct outcome of the "Women & Girls working group – Inclusive Action Plan May 2017".

The keynote speaker was 'Maria Alexiadis', who is currently the female development coach and the lead coach for the 9 – 11 yr old athletes on the Karate Victoria State Kumite team. She is also a state and national athlete, is the current Oceania Champion, ranked 20th in the World in her division, Female -50 kg and recently represented Australia at the World Games in Wroclaw, Poland.

One of the challenges identified for training and assessing coaches are the time constraints they have. To help this we now have a program that can be run as evening sessions, the first one of these is planned to be at Newport in January 2018.

Part of the role is engagement with Baseball Australia's CEP changes which are being overseen by National CEP Coordinator Garry Everson.

In 2018 there will be several requirement changes for all the coaching levels, and BV is working closely with BA to plan and review these changes.

CURRENTLY ACCREDITED NCAS COACHES

QUALIFICATION	TOTAL	F	M
NCAS Level 1	40	5	35
NCAS Level 2	60	3	57
NCAS Level 3	71	9	62
NCAS Level 4	41	4	37
	212	21	191

Baseball Operations Report

MATT WHYTE

SCHOOLS PROGRAM // BASEBALL VICTORIA

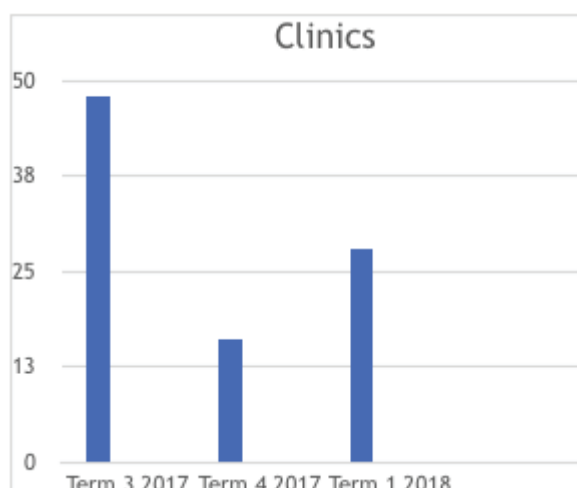
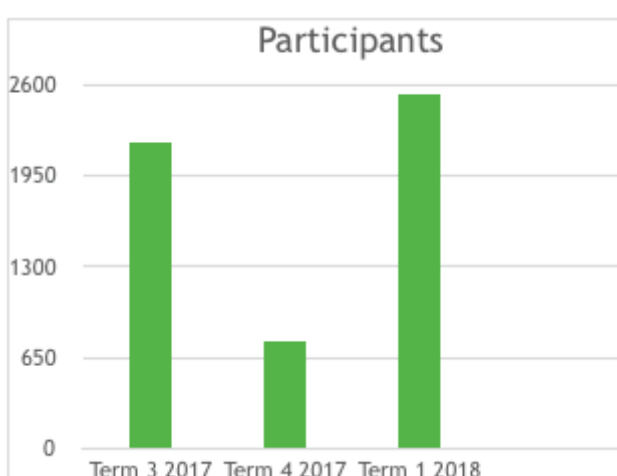
After finishing an internship with the Melbourne ACES front office, I was given the opportunity to take on the BV schools program mid-year.

Term 3 was busy with just under 50 clinics at schools around the state. Many schools participate in the School's Sports Victoria competition (SSV) which runs over terms three and four. For this reason the regularity of clinics dropped off in Term 4 of 2017 and Term 1 2018.

Since commencing my role with BV Over 2000 children have participated in school clinics. Term four had less clinics therefore less participants. We have 26 schools booked in for term one clinics and although this is less than term 3, they are all full day clinics and have more participants.

Spring Camp was run at Cheltenham in October 2017. We had more than 40 children each day for the three days it was held. In January 2018 we followed this up with a five-day Little League camp and a three days skill clinic. Both clinics were run by Melbourne ACES players and the feedback from parents was very positive and we will be looking to replicate this structure in future camps.

Thank you to Cheltenham and Newport Baseball clubs for allowing us to use their facilities. We plan to make baseball clinics/camps regular events on the BV calendar and will be looking for more clubs to host these events in the future.





Events Report

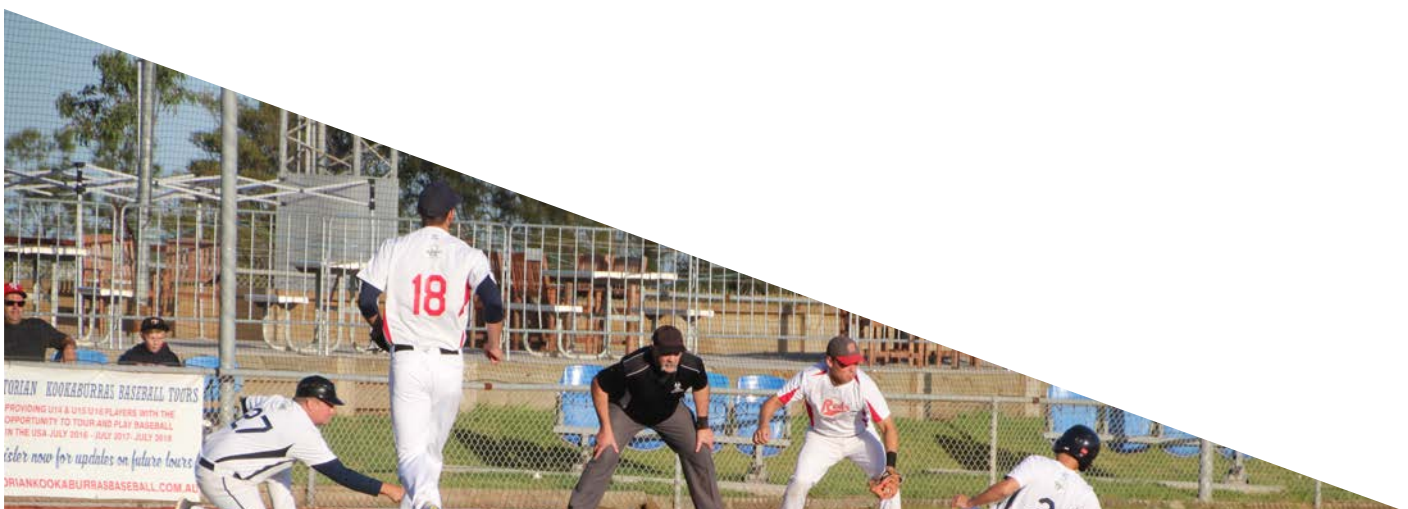
SAMANTHA CREED
EVENTS MANAGER/OPERATIONS COORDINATOR
// BASEBALL VICTORIA

Baseball Victoria's recent changes and new strategic plan has opened up a new and exciting role for the sport in Events Management. This new role has been put in place to enhance all aspects of baseball events, ranging from our awards evening, to all junior/senior league championships, little league championships, winter league championships and our senior finals weekends. This position also incorporates the game day events and operations of the Melbourne Aces. This is an incredible opportunity to showcase our sport by deliberately focusing on enhancing the experience of spectators and participants in all our major events.

The Club All-star game was a great example of a new initiative aimed at achieving these goals. The inaugural game in 2017 between Monarch vs Reds had a great response and we really hope to make this a significant annual event on our calendar.

The Melbourne Aces despite challenging weather ended with an average attendance of 1,100 in major openings. This was largely due to our members and amazing support of our clubs through the "Club Fundraiser Program" and scheduled curtain raisers. This year we had men's and women's softball games, a Melbourne Winter Baseball League sponsored series with a junior curtain raiser, and our first ever 'battle of the badges' game which consisted of the police vs the fire brigade. The 'battle of the badges' day turned out to be our highest attendance of the season and we are looking to go bigger and better next year. We regrettably didn't get to host the women's all-star game at the ballpark this year. However, we have our sights set on returning these games to our events calendar next season.

A lot of time and effort goes into preparing and putting on each event, then making sure everything goes to plan. Luckily enough we have an incredible group of volunteers who sacrifice their time to help make these experiences as exciting and valuable as we can for our community. We also have an ongoing internship program throughout the year which has helped form some extremely positive and beneficial relationships. Additionally this program is a genuine career path for participants starting out in the sports industry and has been a real point of difference in our capacity and value proposition as an organisation.



Events Report

SAMANTHA CREED

EVENTS MANAGER/OPERATIONS COORDINATOR // BASEBALL VICTORIA

GAIN

As a part of the new strategic plan, holding quality events is core to our strategy. Events not only serve as a great source of revenue, they also increase:

- participation/members
- volunteers and internship interest
- spectators
- sponsorship interest
- newsletters/social media

TRAIN

Events provide a great opportunity to train our staff and volunteers in a practical environment which will see us work towards finding the best practices & processes that will keep costs down and ensure we retain our staff/volunteers.

RETAIN

Delivering consistent and valuable events and tournaments for members and sponsors to look forward to each year.

- Members – well ran Aces/ABL games will not only retain current members but increase
- Well ran tournaments will increase participation and spectator numbers
- Volunteers – Successful events will always retain staff/volunteers due to satisfaction of work and feeling a part of a successful team
- Sponsors – Events are a great way to showcase baseball. The more entertainment and enjoyment they get from our events the more willing they are to stay and build on current relationships

SUSTAIN

Providing quality entertainment throughout all aspects of our events

- Spectator engagement
- Boosting baseball's profile
- Aces pre game, in and in game entertainment
- Working with the ABF and Club All-star games held annually
- Curtain raiser opportunities



Commercial Report

MICHELLE BREWSTER
COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS MANAGER
// BASEBALL VICTORIA

In August 2017, I was appointed Commercial Operations Manager focusing on:

- Sponsorship and Corporate Sales
- Sponsorship and Corporate Servicing
- Sponsorship and Corporate Renewals

In the lead up to the season I focussed on building a team of interns and volunteers, renewing sponsor agreements from the 2016 – 2017 season, and establishing new commercial relationships.

In October we hosted our annual business breakfast, sponsored by Quest Flemington. This event was well supported with over 40 people attending including Baseball Victoria staff and board members, Baseball Australia staff, Softball Australia staff, business owners and sponsors.

During the Aces off season it was confirmed that our naming rights sponsor, Jet Couriers, would not be renewing their sponsorship for the 2017/2018 season. With the prospects of replacing a sponsor of this size so close to the start of the season limited, we were overwhelmed with the positive response we received for many of our existing sponsors who stepped up and increased their commitment to the team.

Over the past three seasons we have worked hard on lead generation and on establishing greater ties with the local Altona business community. This has proven a successful strategy with our team adding over 1,000 local business leads to our existing database and conducting over 200 face to face meetings with businesses in this area.

Commercial Report

MICHELLE BREWSTER

COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS MANAGER // BASEBALL VICTORIA

We know from experience, businesses close to the ballpark gain a substantial benefit from the Aces. We will continue to focus on the surrounding neighbourhood, especially as Baseball Victoria move their offices to Altona bringing the opportunity for year long sponsorships.

Our sponsors relationships have gone from strength to strength with a main focus during the season to activations and first class servicing.

This season due to the change of sponsorship arrangements, our corporate hospitality inventory expanded from 20 places to 80 and we were able to offer this to sponsors and guests for the first time.

In line with trends seen in other sports, high yield and VIP areas are becoming more popular than ever before. Although our sales lead times were short we were sold out on a number of occasions presenting an opportunity for next season but also presenting opportunities for Baseball Victoria events, such as Summer League and Winter League Finals.

Our business networking events before every home game became a standout and were well attended, especially at the Friday night games. Our ability to provide networking allows us to punch above our weight in the sporting arena and is one of the Aces most popular activations.

Our strategic plan highlights the need for Baseball in Victoria and the Melbourne Aces to align in the areas of marketing and communications, and to utilise the profile of the professional league and players to engage and ignite the baseball and non-baseball community.

There are many commercial opportunities for Baseball Victoria outside of the Aces season if baseball approaches the future with a "Whole of Sport" philosophy. These relationships take time and require a great deal of attention. They require a commercial culture, creative thinking and dedicated personnel.

Overall the future opportunities for baseball working with the business community are bright and certainly worth the effort.

“Over the past three seasons the Aces have worked on lead generation and on establishing greater ties with the local Altona business community.”

Commercial Report

MICHELLE BREWSTER

COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS MANAGER // BASEBALL VICTORIA

SPONSOR	BUSINESS INDUSTRY	STATUS
Fortburn Engineering	Engineering Defence	Retained and doubled commitment
Quest Flemington	Accommodation	Retained and increased commitment
Ascent Private Wealth	Finance	Retained and doubled commitment
Victorian Battery Company	Automotive	Retained and doubled commitment
West Suburban Taxi / Silver Top Taxi	Transport	Retained
Terra Firma Lids	Industrial	Retained decreased commitment
Minute Man Press	Printing	Gained, new sponsor
Signarama Footscray	Signs	Retained and increased commitment
MWBL	Baseball	Retained
Primo Smallgoods	Food	Retained and increased commitment
HBCFS - Bendigo Bank	Banking	Gained, new sponsor
Travel Stream	Travel	Gained, new major sponsor
Pac Partners	Finance	Gained new sponsor
Sporting Globe	Restaurant Bar	Gained new sponsor (was TGI FRIDAYS)
Grund Fos	Industrial	Gained new sponsor
Bayfit	Fitness	Retained
Altona Sporting Club	Sports Bar	Gained new sponsor
Aces Sporting Cub	Sports Bar	Retained
Jet Couriers	Transport	Lost, naming rights sponsor

Commercial Report

MICHELLE BREWSTER

COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS MANAGER // BASEBALL VICTORIA

GAIN

We have over 8,000 on our data base with over 1,000 new qualified business added this year from the local community.

- We were able to raise the public profile of the sport through our communications platforms including email marketing and social media to our business data base.
- Our ability to invite corporate partners and guests to experience baseball, some for the first time, in our suites, enables us to showcase our sport in its best light.
- We raised our profile with sponsors and partners, hosting another successful round of business networking events, this included a business breakfast at Quest Flemington and a welcome marquee before every home game.

TRAIN

- Our intern program was a significant contributor to our overall successful management of the season. We were able to train interns in sales, ticketing, communications, broadcasting, operations and event management. Many of our interns are sports graduates but some are also long term unemployed who will most benefit from their experience with the Aces over the summer.
- Youth from the local baseball community were able to gain valuable work experience at the stadium in everything from production management to mascot and fan engagement. Our participation in the community is well regarded by local government and our corporate partners especially those located in the West.
- An unexpected but hugely beneficial outcome for the season was our ability to introduce our elite players as well as members of the baseball community to business leaders who are assisting in future careers as mentors, to gain experience or for employment.

RETAIN

- Commercial Operations offers pathways for those who want to continue their involvement with the sport off the field.
- Stakeholders such as our commercial partners have indicated that they will be signing as sponsors for the 2018 - 2019 season. Sponsors are able to expose newcomers to the sport by inviting business associates to our facility and show our sport in a very favourable light. current relationships

SUSTAIN

- Moving forward, the Baseball Victoria Commercial Operations Subcommittee will work towards leveraging industry contacts and networks to expand sponsorship.
- Offering Baseball Victoria assets to potential partners will assist to grow the sport
- Networking with other sports to create larger fan bases and share resources
- Investigate and apply for government grants and incentive programs that can assist to grow the sport in Victoria. Maintain relationships with local government especially the City of Hobson Bay where our state facility is located.

Baseball Victoria Little League Report

LITTLE LEAGUE

The 2017 Little League State Championships were held April 6 – 8 at Gilbert Park Knoxfield. The Championships showcased young players across several sections including the All Star, Girl's Charter, Development Shield and Minor League Challenge.

Results

All Star Final :

Southern Mariners defeated Eastern Athletics 5- 4

Girls Charter Final :

Northern Diamonds defeated Southern Mariners 10-8

Development Shield Final:

Eastern Athletics defeated Northern Diamondbacks (Black) 7- 6

Among the many highlights to come out of the Little League Championships, Genevieve Beacom became the first girl selected into the Australia team to play in the Cal Ripken World Series.

The Eastern Athletics and Southern Mariners went on to place 6th and 8th respectively in the Bendigo Bank Australian Little League Championships.

JUNIOR LEAGUE

The 2017 Junior League State Championships were held 19-21 January at the Geelong Baseball Centre.

Results

All Start Final:

Eastern Athletics defeated Southern Mariners 4 – 3

SENIOR LEAGUE

The 2017 Senior League State Championships were held 19-21 January at the Geelong Baseball Centre.

Results

All Start Final:

Eastern Athletics defeated Southern Mariners 4 – 3

Congratulations to all teams who competed throughout 2017, made possible by an army of parents, coaches, managers, clubs, umpires, scorers and volunteers who love this great game!

Baseball Victoria Winter Championships Committee Report

Thanks to the all the associations (both regional & metropolitan) who have continued to support the championships.

Senior Championships were again held in Geelong with nine Associations competing in the two divisions (Ringwood returned but Diamond Valley was once again missing). Geelong defeated Mt Gambier in an epic final to win Division 1 and North Eastern defeated Latrobe Valley in Division 2.

Under 18 championships were also held in Geelong. Six Associations competed in the championships and although Dandenong went through the pool round undefeated, Diamond Valley turned the tables in the final to win the championships.

Under 16 championships were hosted by the Northern Eastern Baseball Association and held in Wangaratta. The weather was much improved from the previous year. Six Associations entered teams this year and Dandenong were back-to-back winners. Congratulations to Sunraysia who only dropped two games for the weekend, both against the eventual winners Dandenong.

Under 14 championships were held in Frankston again. Six Associations entered teams. After rain interrupted the final days play, Dandenong won their fourth consecutive championship in this age group.

Under 12 Championships were held in Bendigo and seven Associations entered teams. All four division 1 teams had a chance to take home the Championship on the final day of games with Diamond Valley just edging Dandenong to be crowned this year's Division 1 champions. In Division 2, it all came down to the final game between Bendigo and Latrobe Valley with the hometown Bendigo team prevailing.

There has been a slight increase in the number of Associations competing across the five events and it would be good to see that this trend continuing.

Although hosting State Winter Championship provide a significant boost to the host Associations, they are challenging to execute and we rely heavily on good will.

Having said this we will continue to look for opportunities to improve each event and of course welcome any suggestions from the Associations.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Chris Mayne from BV for coordinating the State Winter Championships.

Thank you to all of our hosts, umpires, players, coaches, scorers, EOs, volunteers and associations who helped make this year's event possible. We look forward to your continued support in 2018.

JULIE JONES

Chair

Baseball Victoria Winter Championships Committee

Bendigo Baseball Association Report

2017 was my 4th year on the Bendigo Baseball Association Executive, and my 8th year involved in the Bendigo baseball community. While every year presents various challenges, this year was one of the easiest and most pleasant to be appointed President of the Association. The 2017 season was greeted with all positions on the Executive filled which allowing for more thorough planning prior to the season.

A special thank you to Helen Aikman for nominating for the Secretary position to get us up and running. Her organisational skills were outstanding. Unfortunately due to work commitments, the position soon became vacant again. Jeanine Fitzgerald nominated for the role shortly afterwards, with Julie Jones appointed Vice President replacing Jeanine. This year would of course not have been as successful and run as smoothly as it has without Gay Huggard who managed our financials, and Trent Anglin who performed the role of administrator for the competition.

I would like to thank the Umpires for their contribution to the games. Communication was streamlined through the Umpire's Delegate/Coordinator, Chris Murphy, which caused a significant increase in the standard of umpiring across the competition.

Volunteers play a vital role within our community. Since November 2016, over 6,000 hours have been donated to our league and clubs by our dedicated volunteers. Without volunteers taking on these roles and supporting Baseball, even at a Bunnings barbeque, we certainly would not be where we are - so thank you to everyone who has helped out throughout the year.

The rebuild of the Albert Roy Reserve Clubrooms is inching closer and closer to completion. We were able to sign off on the final plans with the City of Greater Bendigo to finally get the ball rolling. We are hopeful the project will be completed prior to the 2018 season.

Congratulations to Scots on the A Grade Premiership win, Bendigo East on the B Grade Premiership win and Dodgers on the C Grade Premiership win. I look forward to seeing every club with a senior team in each division for 2018. Thank you to Matt Gould, Damian Tresize and Sarah Plowright for the coaching and management of the Senior representative team, and their scorer Brandie Strahan - you did a great job in such a short time with limited players.

Bendigo Baseball Association Report

Thank you to Jono van der Hagen, Josh Brown, Brendon French, Jeanine Fitzgerald and Terry Smith for your roles in coaching and managing the U12 representative team, coming away with the Division 2 title. We tried to put together an U14 representative team, but unfortunately could not fill the coaching and management positions, even though we were successful with a grant. I am very proud of the successes of some of our junior players over the last 12 months who were selected to play at state level and some travelled overseas to compete. Overall, the junior competition struggled this year, however with feedback from parents and clubs at an open forum held in October, we are confident that the junior competition in 2018 will be greater. There was some great feedback provided by all who came along and I personally can't wait for a change in the format of the competition, allowing for the contribution of senior players' time and knowledge to the development of the juniors. It takes a village to raise a child, and I am certain this village can and will raise many.

Lastly, I would sincerely like to thank my fellow members of the Bendigo Baseball Association Executive Committee. Over the years of working together at varying levels, we have built a great deal of trust within the members, clubs, league and each other. Having that level of trust and clear communication, combined with the knowledge of who we are and what we stand for is a key factor for continuing the success of administering the game of baseball in Bendigo.

CASS FULLER
2017 President
Bendigo Baseball Association

Dandenong Baseball Association Report

The Dandenong Baseball Association (DBA) had another successful year in 2017 proving why it is one of the strongest Winter associations in Victoria. 2017 was a year of change for many of the members of our Executive which proved to be challenging, but like the Dandenong spirit, the team rallied together to finish strongly.

Many clubs saw success at finals time, with Dandenong showing they have well and truly broken the drought by winning the second consecutive flag in A1 Grade. Dandenong again took out the Club Championship with 313 points, 81 points clear of second place Frankston.

The DBA also saw success at the State Winter Championships, fielding teams in all grades. Junior success was particularly great with our Under 16 & Under 14 teams taking out the flags for respective age groups. A big thank you also goes to the Frankston Baseball Club for hosting the Under 14 State Winter Championships on behalf of the DBA. As always Frankston put on a show and the home ground advantage proved to be in our favour with the DBA walking away with the flag for the fourth year in a row!

The remaining results are below:

Seniors (Geelong) – Third

Under 18's (Geelong) – Runners Up

Under 16's (Wangaratta) – Winners

Under 14's (Frankston) – Winners

Under 12's (Bendigo) – Runners Up Metro Division

Congratulations to all involved and we thank everyone for their efforts!

2017 brought change to the Junior Structure with the introduction of Minor and Major divisions to our Under 14 and Under 12 competitions, a concept which resulted in a more even junior competition at the grassroots level. We also saw 2 clubs in Bonbeach and Boneo return to the A-Grade competition with mixed results for both clubs.

On behalf of the executive, we want to thank all clubs for their continued support in 2017 and are looking forward to a bigger, better DBA in 2018.

JAKE GRIGORESCU

2017 Acting Senior Vice President
Dandenong Baseball Association

Geelong Baseball Association Report

I would like to this opportunity to thank all clubs for their participation and efforts throughout the 2017 winter season.

The GBA began with a slightly altered format which the Board believed would give all grades an even and competitive competition, with the addition of the Werribee Club in the Melbourne Winter League competition. There were six teams in each grade, no byes and the inclusion of a 'C Reserve' grade. This enabled teams to have multiple games on the same days and to use the re-entry rule on a regular basis. Overall this concept was very successful.

We also gave each club the opportunity to discuss the competition and how we can move forward in the future. It is imperative that each club continually strives to improve themselves. It would be easy to keep the competition exactly as it is, however this would mean there would be no growth, resulting in a stagnant, slowly decreasing competition.

The Board and the clubs need to continue to work together as one to promote our great sport in all areas including word of mouth and all media outlets.

Moving forward, the one area that will need to be discussed and addressed is the future Junior Competition. With clubs now fielding teams in both winter and summer seasons, commitments for parents and players has increased. So it is critical that the GBA together with the clubs offer a junior competition that is not only enjoyable but provides a pathway to retaining players in our great sport.

Again, I would like to this opportunity to thank all board members and volunteers who have worked extremely hard behind the scenes. A special mention to Kingsley Collins for his outstanding work the web page and all media articles. Also to Tony McPherson for his tireless work as Executive Officer.

DAVID CROTTY
2017 President
Geelong Baseball Association

Latrobe Valley Baseball Association Report

GIPPSLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS: Hosted by LVBA & Sale Rangers Baseball Club

All six local clubs entered teams along with Mornington & Dandenong Clubs from the Melbourne comps, The winner of the tournament was the South Gippsland Miners.

BASEBALL VICTORIA WINTER CHAMPIONSHIPS:

The 2017 season saw the LVBA send a senior team to Geelong, and teams to all junior age groups across the state, this was the first time in a decade that the LVBA has managed to send teams to all winter championships on offer, the teams had varying degrees of success and the juniors especially gained valuable experience.

SENIOR SEASON:

2017 saw six clubs compete in the 2017 LVBA winter season-

Churchill Braves. Fielded senior teams in "A, B & C" grades

Moe-Newborough Dodgers. Fielded senior teams in 'A, B & C grades

Morwell Cougars. Fielded senior teams in "B & C" grades

Sale Rangers. Fielded senior teams in "A, B & C" grades

South Gippsland Miners. Fielded senior teams in "A, & C" grades

Traralgon Redsox. Fielded senior teams in "A, B & C" grades

These clubs competed in a spirited manner that finally seen the following clubs take out their respective grade premierships-

"A" grade Premiership won by - Traralgon Redsox, played between Traralgon Redsox & South Gippsland Miners

"B" grade Premiership won by - Traralgon Redsox, played between Traralgon Redsox & Moe-Newborough Dodgers

"C" grade Premiership won by - Moe-Newborough Dodgers, played between Moe-Newborough Dodgers & Churchill Braves

JUNIOR SEASON:

The LVBA saw some major changes to the structure of our juniors with the U/10 T-Ball & U/13 age group moving to a Saturday afternoon, all teams were played at the one venue, this was rotated around the club diamonds with all clubs hosting a magnificent spectacle that saw new parents to the sport wowed by the rate of participation, there was a take up of 25% in participation by girls, the clubs saw a positive rise in numbers.

Latrobe Valley Baseball Association Report

Finals for the juniors:

U/10, T-Ball:

This competition was a no point's competition, the Last round saw the Moe-Newborough Dodgers host a gala round robin tournament which saw all participants in the season receive an LVBA medal for season 2017, with all clubs fielding teams in this age group the future is on the rise.

U/13's modified:

The new Saturday afternoon comp saw a great participation rate and all bar one club have good numbers, the parent survey reflected the new formats popularity with parents, with the LVBA specifically timing this age group so as not to compete with AFL (Sunday Morning) Soccer (Saturday Morning).

The final was won by Traralgon Redsox, played between Traralgon Redsox & Sale Rangers

U/16 Colts:

As with the other juniors U/16 also saw a new format trialled to allow clubs to put teams on the diamond, the format was a colts style that allowed seniors or parents to compete in the teams to allow clubs to put teams in the comp the Colts (older players were limited to the outfield).

This format saw all Clubs field teams consistently throughout the season, with the final being played by 2 clubs that had strong junior numbers throughout the season.

The Final was won by Traralgon Redsox, played between Traralgon Redsox & Sale Rangers

A special mention Eric Robison who has done a magnificent job as secretary, and to all of the executive and club delegates that have seen us move the league in a robust manner through Rigorous debate in a direction for the future of baseball in our area.

In closing thank you for a great season that seen some major structural changes in the juniors and our senior comps consolidate with all clubs working extremely hard to improve the clubs and the league again it was extremely pleasing to see LVBA send Rep sides to all Winter Championships, and to see the numbers of players now playing for Melbourne based teams (making the trip down the hill), that has also seen a number of LVBA Junior players represent The Big "V" via their Melbourne clubs.

BRIAN D DILLON

2017 President

Latrobe Valley Baseball Association

Melbourne Winter Baseball League Report

The Annual General Meeting was held in November 2016 and elections as required concluded with appointments made as necessary for the management of the MWBL for the 2017 season
For the 2017 Season the league consisted of 113 Senior teams and 52 Junior teams

A GRADE	10 TEAMS	A RESERVES	10 TEAMS
B GRADE	14 TEAMS	B RESERVES	14 TEAMS
A3 GRADE	10 TEAMS	A4 GRADE	10 TEAMS
D GRADE	10 TEAMS	D RESERVES	12 TEAMS
EL GRADE	8 TEAMS	EE GRADE	15 TEAMS

UNDER 17 DIV 1	7 TEAMS - COMBINED DV & RD COMPETITION
UNDER17 DIV 2	7 TEAMS - COMBINED DV & RD COMPETITION
UNDER 15	9 TEAMS - DIAMOND VALLEY
UNDER 15	9 TEAMS - RINGWOOD DISTRICT
UNDER 13	8 TEAMS - DIAMOND VALLEY
UNDER 13	8 TEAMS - RINGWOOD DISTRICT
ROOKIE BALL	4 TEAMS - RINGWOOD DISTRICT

With Werribee Baseball Club moving over from the Geelong Baseball Association and Sunshine Baseball Club entering a junior team, the league increased to 113 senior teams an increase of two teams over last year and with the loss of some junior teams within the MWBL clubs the junior team numbers dropped again to 52 teams a loss of two teams from last year.

The clubs and the league need to address the loss of junior teams in the past two years as a matter of urgency.

The Premierships won by the various teams in the thirteen Senior and eleven Junior competitions are to be congratulated.

Thank you to the MWBL Board members and sub committees for help and advice throughout the season. Thanks also to the Clubs administrators and the general club members for your cooperation and help throughout the season in the overall league administration.

Thanks to the following Geoff Dunn (chair), Richard Mason (Development) and Peter Matters (Secretary) of the MWBL Umpires panel executive for their help in the umpires administration and appointments and to the umpires through the season for diligence in their officiating of games. Thank you to Pennant Committee chair Doug Bartlett and the pennant members for their decisions that are needed throughout the season.

Melbourne Winter Baseball League Report

Minor amendments and some additions were made by the pennant committee to the 'Playing and Match Conditions' for both seniors and juniors in particular in regard to the seniors - 'Non National Players'. Match Conditions booklets were printed prior to the start of the season and distributed to clubs and players.

Results and ladders for the senior and junior competitions were updated on Saturday evenings for the clubs and players information. The phoning of game scores by clubs after games and emailing of scores and Match Report Sheets by clubs is working well. The checking and signing of match sheets by team managers remains and continues to be an ongoing issue that results in fines on clubs.

The IMG Data base and competition management system continues to be a challenge for .the MWBL Administration and clubs

Attendance at Delegates meetings improved this year but small number of clubs are not attending and prefer to pay the fine than attend is an issue.

DAVID RICE
2017 Administrator
Melbourne Winter Baseball League

North Eastern Baseball Association Report

The North Eastern Baseball Association had another good year with 8 teams in the 2017 Competition, playing over 16 weeks.

At the end of the home and away season, the finals were split into the 3 grades, A, B & C, with the top 3 sides playing off for the A Grade Shield, the next 3 played off for the B Grade shield and the bottom 2 sides playing off for the C grade shield.

The NASC Bears took out the A Grade final, the Porepunkah Panthers were the winners of the B Grade final and the Wangaratta Rangers Orange side won the C grade title.

The year was capped off with our Senior State Winter Championship Representative team taking out the Division 2 title in Geelong over the Queen's Birthday Long Weekend.

During the season NEBA organised come and try sessions with good success playing between senior games when we could and we will continue to employ this strategy this year.

A Life Membership, only the 2nd in the Association's history, was given to Porepunkah's stalwart and one of their founding members, James Rogers. James has been involved in Baseball in the North East of Victoria for more years than anyone can put a number to. We appreciate all he has done and continues to do for Baseball in the North East area.

PAUL MEDDINGS

2017 President

North Eastern Baseball Association

Sunraysia Baseball Association Report

The League has again experienced a season that was comparable with the past few years.

Senior player numbers were down slightly, and junior numbers were down slightly. Hopefully the junior numbers will improve next season as the clubs have continued some after school training for primary school students.

The league wishes to acknowledge all the club sponsors and supporters for their assistance and contributions during the year. The league values their support immensely.

We consider that the 2016/17 season was once again a success, and look forward to 2017/18 with confidence that we will again have support for another favourable year.

SHANHAN BARROT

2017 President

Sunraysia Baseball Association

Victorian Baseball Summer League Report

We have had another fantastic VSBL season this year. Essendon Baseball club continues to make history winning their 6th consecutive Premiership flag for the Division 1 Firsts competition. Springvale have also continued their women's Division 1 championship winning streak with their 5th consecutive trophy win. We are very proud of all of our clubs and the players for their continuous hard work. There are new players receiving batting, pitching and MVP awards this year, who should be very proud of their achievements. We would like to thank all staff and volunteers for their tremendous help throughout the season as their hard work does not go unnoticed.

THE SUMMER LEAGUE 2016-2017 CONSISTED OF:

- 3,887 Participants, in over 355 teams.
 - 185 Senior Teams
 - 170 Junior teams
 - Male Participants – 3,457
 - Female Participants – 430
- 43 clubs
- 40 competitions
- Overall there were 3000+ games scheduled for the entire season

THE SUMMER LEAGUE 2017-2018 CURRENTLY CONSISTS OF:

- 3,834 Participants, in over 281 teams.
 - Senior Teams - 190
 - Junior Teams - 91
 - Male Participants – 3,356
 - Female Participants – 478
- 41 clubs
- 40 competitions
- Overall there were 3000+ games scheduled for the entire season

THE SUMMER LEAGUE 2016-2017 CONSISTED OF:

- Essendon Baseball Club won the Division 1 1st flag, continuing to make history with 6 consecutive Premier championship wins.
- Springvale Baseball club claiming the women's Division 1 title for the 5th consecutive year.
- Sunshine Baseball Club were being promoted from Division 2 to Division 1 after winning a premiership double.

2016-2017 AWARDS WINNERS MOST VALUABLE PLAYER

- Division 1 – Jimmy Jensen (Newport)
- Division 2 – Craig Barnett (Berwick), Tyler Cooklin (Doncaster), Joshua Lee (Werribee)
- Women's Division 1 – Abbey McLellan

PITCHING AWARDS

- Division 1 – Josh Tols (Fitzroy)
- Division 2 – Jared van Hoon (Sunshine)
- Women's Division 1 – Simone Wearne (Springvale)

BATTING AVERAGE

- Division 1 – Josh Davies (Essendon)
- Division 2 – Lewis Weldon (Sunshine)
- Women's Division 1 – Abbey McLellan

HOME RUNE KINGS

- Division 1 – Josh Davies (Essendon)

MISCELLANEOUS COACH OF THE YEAR

- 2016-17 – Jack Larner (Southern Mariners)

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

- 2016-17 – Paul Walshe (Newport)

UMPIRE OF THE YEAR

- 2016-17 – Ian Gavin

In Memorium

BARRY SMITH // LIFE MEMBER [1988]

Baseball Victoria has been saddened to learn of the passing of Life Member (1988) Barry Smith. A lifelong fan of the game, by his own admission, Barry wasn't the most athletically gifted player and so chose to take up umpiring at a time when most of the game's top umpires were retired players.

Barry worked extremely hard to improve his knowledge on all facets of the game and it was rare to spot him without a copy of his 'umpiring bible', a book called Knotty Problems where American umpires provide detailed interpretations and explanations based on actual situations that had occurred in Major League games.

Behind the plate, Barry was a strong believer in the importance of consistency in calling balls and strikes. He was well known for a very tight strike zone and rarely called a strike above the belt. In line with the American interpretation Barry's zone was much tighter than the usual zone prevailing at that time. But if Barry's zone was tight at the start of the game it remained tight for the whole game. Breaking ball pitchers in particular usually struggled to find an edge but on the other hand, hitters knew where they stood and could confidently leave a close one without the fear of being rung up. Always honest, he was occasionally known to say "I might have missed that one" but he continued to call them as he saw them.

His commitment and dedication to becoming the best possible umpire he could be was evident from the start and he quickly moved through to becoming one of the top umpires in Victoria and Australia, officiating at all the top levels of competition.

During the 1970's there was seasonal meetings between Umpires and the Senior Club Coaches/Managers with the objective of strengthening the relationships and to communicate the changes to the rules or their interpretation. Towards the end of the serious discussion covering the changes for the coming season, management of on field disputes, overly aggressive take out slides, Barry would always be asked to demonstrate the technical boundaries between legal and illegal pitching moves, such as quick pitches and in particular the lefthanders pick off to first base. It is fair to say Barry's performances became legendary.

After his retirement from active involvement as an umpire and administrator of the game, he continued to pursue his passion for the game working closely with the late Graeme Ainscough and others on the Legacy Committee charged with the responsibility of collecting documents and recording the history of the Game in Victoria. Barry's umpiring career extended over more than three decades and Barry's active involvement off the field extended over five decades. There is no doubt that the "Beatle" made a lasting and very positive contribution to improving the professionalism and standard of umpiring in Victoria and Australian Baseball.

The Game and Victorian Baseball in particular has lost a great fan and he will be sadly missed.



Honour Rolls

BASEBALL VICTORIA LIFE MEMBERS

2009	Jason Blair
2015	John King
2016	Julie Jones

VICTORIAN PROVINCIAL BASEBALL LEAGUE LIFE MEMBERS

1948	Jack E. M. Ellis* (VBA)
1955	William Aitken* (Ballarat)
1957	William Harwood* (Ballarat)
1959	Les Olsson* (Dandenong)
1964	Ern Gear* (Geelong)
1965	Ern Blanden* (Ballarat)
1966	Roy Shadorth* (Bendigo)
1968	Ern Whykes* (Ballarat)
1974	Robert Luxford* (Dandenong)
1976	Ron Clack* (Ballarat)
1986	John O'Brien* (Dandenong)
1999	Michael O'Brien (Geelong)
2001	Terrye Cox (Ballarat)
2004	David Rice (VWBL)
2004	Graeme Besford (VWBL)
2005	Clyde Cumming (LVBA)
2005	Greg Evans (Bendigo)
2006	Kath Besford (VWBL)
2009	Dale Lewis (VWBL)
2009	Julie Stephens (Dandenong)
2009	Michael Stephens (Dandenong)

VICTORIAN BASEBALL ASSOCIATION LIFE MEMBERS

1910	Peter McAlister*
1911	Frank Laver*
1911	FM Russell*
1911	HM Adams*
1911	JS Milford*
1911	T Smith*
1912	Percy B Seyffarth*
1919	Cam Sellars*
1920	S Charles Lansdown*
1921	Robert R Hindson*
1922	TJ Browne*
1924	Ernest W Fielder*
1926	Leslie F Johnston OBE*

1926	Leslie F Johnston OBE*
1929	J Bayne Mackay*
1933	HJ Newbound*
1935	Harry W Francis*
1935	Hugh M Gordon*
1935	Alfred Beckefeld*
1936	Daniel J Chandler*
1941	Percy C Pooley*
1942	Jack EM Ellis Snr*
1943	Frederick H Martin*
1944	GB Mackay*
1945	Jack T Leckey*
1947	Ernest H King*
1948	Wally B Carter*
1949	Reg E Darling*
1955	Keith W Tucker*
1956	Tom L Straw*
1958	George S Heron*
1963	RJ (Bob) Black*
1966	Angus McPherson*
1970	Ross M Straw*
1970	RW (Dick) Chapman*
1973	John B Anderson*
1973	Talbot R Hill*
1980	S Doug Chapman*
1981	Colin C Miller*
1982	Jack F Guiliano*
1983	WE (Bill) Blanden*
1985	David L Went
1986	Colin J McKay*
1986	Ken CJ Welfare*
1986	Lyn V Straw*
1988	Barry N Smith
1988	Graeme B Ainscough*
1991	Paul F Collins
1991	Ron R Smith*
1992	Les A Polson
2002	Les T Flower
2004	Beryl Bunting*
2004	Rodney Gaunt
2005	Grant Weir
2005	Robert O Blackmore
2006	Jenny Ratcliffe
2006	Peter J Dihm

*Deceased

Office Bearers (Historical)

BASEBALL VICTORIA INCORPORATED

YEAR	PRESIDENT	CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
2017	MR. M. FOREMAN	MR. A. BLAIR (RESIGNED JUNE)/ MR. J. HUBER (APPOINTED JULY)
2016	MR. M. FOREMAN	MR. A. BLAIR
2015	MR. M. FOREMAN	MR. A. BLAIR
2014	MR. C. CRAMERI	MR. N. PRICE
2013	MR. C. CRAMERI	MR. B. W. HIDSON/MR. N. PRICE
2012	DR. R. J. SADLER	MR. B. W. HIDSON
2011	DR. R. J. SADLER	MR. B. W. HIDSON
2010	DR. R. J. SADLER	MR. B. W. HIDSON
2009	MR. P. J. DIHM	MR. S. NASH

Office Bearers (Historical)

VICTORIAN BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

YEAR	PRESIDENT	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
2008	MR. P. J. DIHM	MR. S. NASH
2007	MR. P. J. DIHM	MR. S. WALKER/NASH
2006	MR. P. J. DIHM	MR. S. DAWES/S. OXWORTH/WALKER
2005	MR. P. J. DIHM	MR. S. DAWES
2004	MR. P. J. DIHM	MR. S. DAWES
2003	MR. P. J. DIHM	MR. P. J. WILLIAMS/DAWES
2002	MR. P. J. DIHM	MR. L. T. FLOWER/WILLIAMS
2001	MR. P. J. DIHM	MR. L. T. FLOWER
2000	MR. P. J. DIHM	MR. L. T. FLOWER
1999	MR. P. J. DIHM	MR. L. T. FLOWER
1998	MR. P. J. DIHM	MR. L. T. FLOWER
1997	MR. P. J. DIHM	MR. L. T. FLOWER
1996	MR. P. J. DIHM	MR. L. T. FLOWER
1995	MR. P. J. DIHM	MR. L. T. FLOWER
1994	MR. P. J. DIHM	MR. L. T. FLOWER
1993	MR. P. J. DIHM	MR. L. T. FLOWER
1992	MR. P. J. DIHM	MR. L. T. FLOWER
1991	MR. P. J. DIHM	MR. L. T. FLOWER
1990	MR. P. J. DIHM	MR. S. OXWORTH (ACT.)
1989	MR. R. R. SMITH	MR. B. MANNION
YEAR	PRESIDENT	ADMINISTRATOR
1988	MR. R. R. SMITH	MR. B. MANNION
1987	MR. R. R. SMITH	MR. T. J. BALLARD
1986	MR. R. R. SMITH	MR. T. J. BALLARD
1985	MR. R. R. SMITH	MR. T. J. BALLARD
1984	MR. R. R. SMITH	MR. T. R. HILL
YEAR	PRESIDENT	SECRETARY
1983	MR. R. R. SMITH	MR. T. R. HILL
1982	MR. R. R. SMITH	MR. T. R. HILL
1981	MR. R. R. SMITH	MR. T. R. HILL
1980	MR. R. R. SMITH	MR. T. R. HILL
1979	MR. R. R. SMITH	MR. T. R. HILL
1978	MR. R. R. SMITH	MR. T. R. HILL
1977	MR. R. R. SMITH	MR. T. R. HILL
1976	MR. R. R. SMITH	MR. T. R. HILL
1975	MR. R. R. SMITH	MR. T. R. HILL
1974	MR. R. R. SMITH	MR. T. R. HILL
1973	MR. R. R. SMITH	MR. T. R. HILL
1972	MR. J. B. ANDERSON	MR. T. R. HILL

Office Bearers (Historical)

YEAR	PRESIDENT	SECRETARY
1971	MR. J. B. ANDERSON	MR. T. R. HILL
1970	MR. J. B. ANDERSON	MR. G. BENNEY
1969	MR. J. B. ANDERSON	MR. G. BENNEY
1968	MR. R. J. BLACK	MR. J. L. GOLDSWORTHY
1967	MR. R. J. BLACK	MR. J. L. GOLDSWORTHY
1966	MR. R. J. BLACK	MR. N. G. WEBSTER
1965	MR. R. J. BLACK	MR. N. G. WEBSTER
1964	MR. R. J. BLACK	MR. N. G. WEBSTER
1963	MR. R. BOWTELL	MR. J. B. ANDERSON
1962	MR. J. E. M. ELIIS	MR. J. B. ANDERSON
1961	MR. J. E. M. ELIIS	MR. J. B. ANDERS ON
1960	MR. J. E. M. ELIIS	MR. R. J. BLACK
1959	MR. R. E. DARLING	MR. R. J. BLACK
1958	MR. G. S. HERON	MR. R. J. BLACK
1957	MR. G. S. HERON	MR. R. J. BLACK
1956	MR. G. S. HERON	MR. R. J. BLACK
1955	MR. G. S. HERON	MR. R. J. BLACK
1954	MR. G. S. HERON	MR. R. J. BLACK
1953	MR. G. S. HERON	MR. R. J. BLACK
1952	MR. G. S. HERON	MR. R. E. DARLING
1951	MR. G. S. HERON	MR. R. E. DARLING
1950	MR. G. S. HERON	MR. R. E. DARLING
1949	MR. E. H. KING	MR. R. E. DARLING
1948	MR. E. H. KING	MR. R. E. DARLING
1947	MR. E. H. KING	MR. R. E. DARLING
1946	MR. E. H. KING	MR. R. E. DARLING
1945	MR. E. H. KING	MR. R. E. DARLING
1944	MR. E. H. KING	MR. R. E. DARLING
1943	MR. E. H. KING	MR. R. E. DARLING
1942	MR. E. H. KING	MR. R. E. DARLING
1941	MR. E. H. KING	MR. R. E. DARLING
1940	MR. E. H. KING	MR. R. E. DARLING
1939	MR. R. R. HINDSON/KING	MR. P. C. POOLEY/DARLING
1938	MR. R. R. HINDSON	MR. P. C. POOLEY
1937	MR. R. R. HINDSON	MR. P. C. POOLEY
1936	MR. R. R. HINDSON	MR. P. C. POOLEY
1935	MR. R. R. HINDSON	MR. P. C. POOLEY
1934	MR. R. R. HINDSON	MR. H. M. GORDON/POOLEY
1933	MR. R. R. HINDSON	MR. H. M. GORDON
1932	MR. R. R. HINDSON	MR. H. M. GORDON
1931	MR. R. R. HINDSON	MR. H. M. GORDON
1930	MR. R. R. HINDSON	MR. H. M. GORDON

Office Bearers (Historical)

YEAR	PRESIDENT	SECRETARY
1929	MR. R. R. HINDSON	MR. H. M. GORDON
1928	MR. L. F. JOHNSTON/HINDSON	MR. H. M. GORDON
1927	MR. L. F. JOHNSTON	MR. H. M. GORDON
1926	MR. L. F. JOHNSTON	MR. P. C. POOLEY/GORDON
1925	MR. L. F. JOHNSTON	MR. P. C. POOLEY
1924	MR. L. F. JOHNSTON	P. C. POOLEY
1923	MR. C. SELLARS	C.J EASEY
1922	MR. C. SELLARS	C.J EASEY

VICTORIAN BASEBALL COUNCIL

YEAR	PRESIDENT	SECRETARY
1922	MR. C. SELLARS	C.J EASEY
1921	MR. C. SELLARS	C.J EASEY
1920	MR. C. SELLARS	C.J EASEY

VICTORIAN BASEBALL UNION

YEAR	PRESIDENT	SECRETARY
1924	MR. E. W. FIELDER	C.S TANNER
1923	MR. E. W. FIELDER	C.S TANNER
1922	MR. D. J. CHANDLER	H. W. FRANCIS
1921	MR. D. J. CHANDLER	H. W. FRANCIS
1920	MR. D. J. CHANDLER	H. W. FRANCIS
1919	MR. D. J. CHANDLER	C. SELLARS/H. W. FRANCIS
1918	MR. H. M. ADAMS	C. SELLARS
1917	MR. H. M. ADAMS	C. SELLARS
1916	MR. H. M. ADAMS	C. SELLARS
1915	MR. H. M. ADAMS	C. SELLARS

Office Bearers (Historical)

VICTORIAN BASEBALL LEAGUE

YEAR	PRESIDENT	SECRETARY
1924	MR R. R. HINDSON	N. CURRY
1923	MR A. W. HAYES	C. J EASEY
1922	MR A. W. HAYES	C. J EASEY
1921	MR A. W. HAYES	C. S. TANNER
1920	MR A. W. HAYES	C. S. TANNER
1919	MR F. LAVER	C. S. TANNER
1918	MR F. LAVER	C. S. TANNER
1917	MR F. LAVER	C. S. TANNER
1916	MR F. LAVER	C. S. TANNER
1915	MR F. LAVER	C. S. TANNER
1914	MR J. S. MILFORD	C. SELLARS
1913	MR J. S. MILFORD	C. SELLARS
1912	MR J. S. MILFORD	C. SELLARS
1911	MR J. S. MILFORD	P. B. SEYFFARTH
1910	MR J. S. MILFORD	P. B. SEYFFARTH
1909	MAJOR B. J. WARDILL	P. B. SEYFFARTH
1908	MAJOR B. J. WARDILL	P. B. SEYFFARTH
1907	MAJOR B. J. WARDILL	P. B. SEYFFARTH
1906	MR J. S. MILFORD	P. B. SEYFFARTH
1905	MR J. S. MILFORD	P. B. SEYFFARTH
1904	MR J. S. MILFORD	P. B. SEYFFARTH
1903	MR J. S. MILFORD	C. NODRUM
1902	MR J. S. MILFORD	C. NODRUM
1901	MR J. S. MILFORD	C. NODRUM
1900	MR J. S. MILFORD	C. NODRUM
1899	MR J. S. MILFORD	C. NODRUM
1898	MAJOR B. J. WARDILL	
1897	MAJOR B. J. WARDILL	
1896	MAJOR B. J. WARDILL	
1895	MR J. C. WILLIAMSON	
1894	MR J. C. WILLIAMSON	
1893	MR J. C. WILLIAMSON	
1892	MR J. C. WILLIAMSON	
1891	MR J. C. WILLIAMSON	
1890	MR J. C. WILLIAMSON	



Financials

JAMES VAN BEEK
SECRETARY & FINANCE // BASEBALL VICTORIA

The Profit/(Loss) recorded by Baseball Victoria for the 12 month period ending 30th September 2017 was a Net Profit of \$15K (2016: Profit \$81K) a reduction of \$66K on last year.

THE NET PROFIT IS BROKEN DOWN AS FOLLOWS:

Total Revenue recorded was \$1.59m an increase of \$111K (7%) on last year. Total Expenditure was \$1.58m which also resulted in an increase on last year by \$176K (12%).

Net Profit of \$15K was down \$66K on last year and down \$26K on budget. When compared to budget Total Revenue was up \$41K (3%) and Total Expenditure exceeded budget by \$69K (5%).

The major driver of the variance is the addition of the Melbourne Aces financials being captured by Baseball Victoria. This approach has been adopted by all State Associations in the 2016-2017 season with the support of Baseball Australia.

The Aces generated revenues of \$110K and incurred operational costs of \$138K the shortfall of \$27K which has been funded by Baseball Victoria ('BV'). The shortfall accounts for 41% of the reduction in Net profit recorded by BV this financial year. We clearly understand that this is an unacceptable burden that has been placed on BV due to the lack of commercial support for the ABL across the whole competition and a meeting is scheduled with Baseball Australia CEO, Cameron Vale prior to the presentation of these financials at the AGM to discuss the future of the ABL and its financial model.

The other notable contributing factor to the reduced Net Profit was the loss of \$25K in Grant revenue due to the successful completion of agreed projects that expired during the year. Management will be seeking to explore new opportunities when the grant window opens.

Administratively BV experienced internal changes with our previous CEO, Ashley Blair resigning during the year which provided the board with an opportunity to conduct a review of its staffing structure. The resultant findings and recommendations were presented and discussed by both the board and the consultants. A number of recommendations were adopted and as a result Justin Huber was appointed the new CEO of BV and a number of other new appointments were made to support the structure recommended by the report. These appointments are welcomed and should assist in stabilising our management team over the next 2-5 yrs.

The overall cost of the review and attendance to other administrative matters resulted in a \$20K increase in administration costs. When compared to last year, with the employee changes as outlined there was no growth in wages costs.

There were no material changes from a pathways, competition management and game development perspective that had an impact on the Net Profit when compared to last year.

BASEBALL VICTORIA INCORPORATED
ABN 78 603 120 057

Financial Report
For the period ended 30 September 2017

BASEBALL VICTORIA INCORPORATED
ABN 78 603 120 057

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BASEBALL VICTORIA INCORPORATED
ABN 78 603 120 057

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The board of director's present their report together with the financial report of Baseball Victoria Incorporated for the period ended 30 September 2017 and the auditor's report thereon. This financial report has been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards.

The Board of Director's names

The names of the director's in office at any time during or since the end of the year are:

Myles Foreman - President

Scott Dawes - Vice President

Sheila Nguyen

James van Beek

Geoff Pearce

Sonia Heath

Craig Armstead

The director's have been in office since the start of the year to date of this report unless otherwise stated.

Results

The Profit/(Loss) of the association for the year after providing for income tax amounted to a Profit of \$15,518 (2016: Profit \$81,193).

Review of operations

The association continued to engage in its principal activity, the results of which are disclosed in the attached financial statements.

Significant changes in state of affairs

There were changes in the state of affairs during the year.

- * Appointment of a new CEO (Justin Huber)
- * Management of the Melbourne Aces (MBL team)

Principal activities

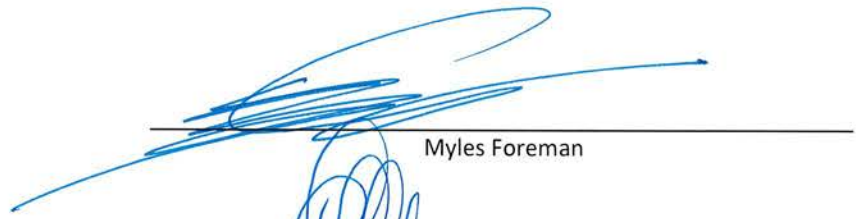
The principal activity of the association during the year was to facilitate and promote baseball in Victoria. No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

BASEBALL VICTORIA INCORPORATED
ABN 78 603 120 057

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

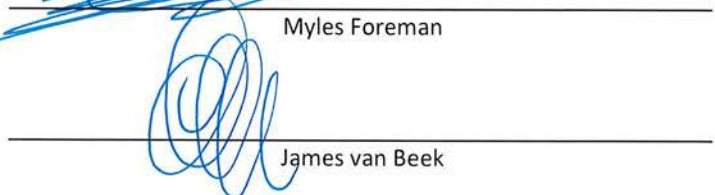
Signed in accordance with a resolution of the board of director's

President:



Myles Foreman

Finance Director:



James van Beek

Dated this day 8th January 2018

BASEBALL VICTORIA INCORPORATED
ABN: 78 603 120 057

STATEMENT OF PROFIT AND LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
For the Year Ended 30 September 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
Revenue			
Revenue	3	1,590,749	1,480,019
Interest Income		4,394	4,387
		<u>1,595,143</u>	<u>1,484,406</u>
Less: Expenses			
Depreciation and amortisation expense		(8,065)	(9,540)
Employee benefits expense		(439,818)	(442,948)
Finance costs		(1,018)	(864)
Administration expenses		(152,447)	(117,085)
Senior state team expenses		(79,533)	(50,345)
Junior state team expenses		(252,465)	(257,524)
ABF, registration and insurance expenses		(6,077)	(15,824)
Umpire expenses		(128,715)	(130,058)
Development expenses		(116,174)	(39,261)
Bad and doubtful debts		(5,855)	(4,000)
Motor vehicle expenses		(11,504)	(15,221)
Other competition expenses		(170,207)	(29,304)
Other expenses		(207,747)	(291,239)
		<u>(1,579,625)</u>	<u>(1,403,213)</u>
Profit/(Loss) before income tax expense		<u>15,518</u>	<u>81,193</u>
Income tax expense		-	-
Net Profit/(Loss) after Income tax		<u>15,518</u>	<u>81,193</u>
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the period		<u>15,518</u>	<u>81,193</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements

BASEBALL VICTORIA INCORPORATED
ABN: 78 603 120 057

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
As at 30 September 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	324,031	466,405
Receivables	5	113,624	70,695
Inventories	6	6,876	9,536
Other assets	9	36,823	20,367
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>481,354</u>	<u>567,003</u>
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Plant and equipment	7	23,683	20,757
Intangible assets	8	2,000	2,000
Other assets	9	55,540	55,672
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		<u>81,223</u>	<u>78,429</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>562,577</u>	<u>645,432</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	10	16,855	13,668
Borrowings	11	14,330	6,804
Provisions	12	21,915	30,929
Other liabilities	13	211,211	294,315
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>264,311</u>	<u>345,716</u>
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Borrowings	11	-	13,421
Provisions	12	2,316	5,731
Other liabilities	13	55,540	55,672
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>57,856</u>	<u>74,824</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>322,166</u>	<u>420,540</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>240,411</u>	<u>224,893</u>
MEMBERS FUNDS			
Accumulated surplus		240,411	224,893
TOTAL MEMBERS FUNDS		<u>240,411</u>	<u>224,893</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements

BASEBALL VICTORIA INCORPORATED
ABN: 78 603 120 057

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN MEMBERS FUNDS
For the Year Ended 30 September 2017

	Accumulated Surplus
	\$
Balance as at 1 October 2015	143,700
Profit/(Loss) for the period	81,193
Total comprehensive income for the year	<u>81,193</u>
Balance as at 30 September 2016	<u>224,893</u>
Balance as at 1 October 2016	224,893
Profit/(Loss) for the period	15,518
Total comprehensive income for the year	<u>15,518</u>
Balance as at 30 September 2017	<u>240,411</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements

BASEBALL VICTORIA INCORPORATED
ABN: 78 603 120 057

STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS

For the Year Ended 30 September 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
Cash flow from operating activities			
Receipts from Customers		1,547,820	1,460,507
Payments to Suppliers & Employees		(1,676,684)	(1,351,608)
Interest Received		4,394	4,387
Finance Costs		(1,018)	(864)
Net cash used in operating activities	14(b)	<u>(125,488)</u>	<u>112,422</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		-	-
Payments for property, plant and equipment	7(a)	(10,991)	(2,947)
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(10,991)</u>	<u>(2,947)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Proceeds from borrowings		-	-
Motor vehicle finance repayments		(5,895)	(5,376)
Net cash used in financing activities		<u>(5,895)</u>	<u>(5,376)</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		(142,374)	104,099
Reconciliation of cash			
Cash at beginning of the financial year		466,405	362,306
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		(142,374)	104,099
Cash at end of financial year	14(a)	<u>324,031</u>	<u>466,405</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements

BASEBALL VICTORIA INCORPORATED
ABN: 78 603 120 057

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year Ended 30 September 2017

NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporations Reform Act of Victoria 2012 (and its associated Regulations). The directors have determined that the Association is not a reporting entity.

The financial report was approved by the Board of Director's as at the date of the directors' report

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the association in the preparation and presentation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

a) Basis of preparation of the financial report

Historical Cost Convention

The financial report has been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by revaluations to fair value for certain classes of assets as described in the accounting policies.

b) Revenue

Revenue from the rendering of services is recognised upon delivery of the service to the customers.

Interest revenue is recognised when it becomes receivable on a proportional basis taking in to account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

Other revenue is recognised when the right to the revenue has been established.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

c) Income tax

The Association has self-assessed to be exempt from income tax pursuant to Section 50.45 of the *Australian Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* and thus is not liable for any income tax, and accordingly no provision for income tax has been raised.

d) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand and at banks, short-term deposits with an original maturity of three months or less held at call with financial institutions.

BASEBALL VICTORIA INCORPORATED
ABN: 78 603 120 057

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Year Ended 30 September 2017

NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

e) Plant and equipment

Each class of plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Plant and equipment

The carrying amount of plant and equipment is reviewed annually by the committee to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from those assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows which will be received from the assets employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have been discounted to present values in determining recoverable amounts.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets is depreciated over the estimated useful lives commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Land and the land component of any class of fixed asset is not depreciated.

Class of fixed asset	Depreciation rates	Depreciation basis
Motor vehicles at cost	25%	Diminishing value
Office equipment at cost	35% - 67%	Straight-Line

f) Intangibles

Patents, trademarks and licences

Patents, trademarks and licences are recognised at cost and are amortised over their estimated useful lives. They are carried at cost less accumulated amortisation and any impairment losses.

g) Impairment

Assets with an indefinite useful life are not amortised but are tested annually for impairment in accordance with AASB 136. Assets subject to annual depreciation or amortisation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or circumstances arise that indicate that the carrying amount of the asset may be impaired.

An impairment loss is recognised where the carrying amount of the assets exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount of an asset is defined as the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

h) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an out flow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Year Ended 30 September 2017

NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

i) Leases

Leases are classified at their inception as either operating or finance leases based on the economic substance of the agreement so as to reflect the risks and benefits incidental to ownership.

Finance leases

Leases of fixed assets, where substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to the ownership of the asset, but not the legal ownership, are transferred to the association are classified as finance leases. Finance leases are capitalised, recording an asset and liability equal to the present value of the minimum lease payments, including any guaranteed residual values. The interest expense is calculated using the interest rate implicit in the lease and is included in finance costs in the statement of comprehensive income. Leased assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives where it is likely that the association will obtain ownership of the asset, or over the term of the lease. Lease payments are allocated between the reduction of the lease liability and the lease interest expense for the period.

Operating leases

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

Lease incentives received under operating leases are recognised as a liability and amortised on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease term.

j) Employee benefits

(i) Short-term employee benefit obligations

Liabilities arising in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave and any other employee benefits expected to be settled within twelve months of the reporting date are measured at their nominal amounts based on remuneration rates which are expected to be paid when the liability is settled. The expected cost of short-term employee benefits in the form of compensated absences such as annual leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. All other short-term employee benefit obligations are presented as payables.

(ii) Long-term employee benefit obligations

Liabilities arising in respect of long service leave and annual leave which is not expected to be settled within twelve months of the reporting date are measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflow to be made in respect of the services provided by employees up to the reporting date.

Employee benefit obligations are presented as current liabilities in the balance sheet if the entity does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, regardless of when the actual settlement is expected to occur.

BASEBALL VICTORIA INCORPORATED
ABN: 78 603 120 057

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Year Ended 30 September 2017

NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

k) Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs can include interest, amortisation of discounts or premiums relating to borrowings, ancillary costs incurred in connection with arrangement of borrowings, foreign exchange losses net of hedged amounts on borrowings.

Borrowing costs incurred as part of the cost of construction of a qualifying asset are capitalised until the asset is ready for its intended use or sale.

l) Comparatives

Where necessary, comparative information has been reclassified and repositioned for consistency with current year disclosures.

NOTE 2: CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

Estimates and judgements are based on past performance and management's expectations for the future.

BASEBALL VICTORIA INCORPORATED
ABN: 78 603 120 057

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Year Ended 30 September 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
NOTE 3: REVENUE			
Operating activities			
Affiliation fees		172,232	165,041
Registration and insurance		316,560	326,842
Development department		140,313	60,786
Grant income		150,000	175,000
Umpire fees		130,279	128,229
General operating income		53,964	57,839
Senior state teams		61,974	34,091
Junior state teams		353,814	417,916
Baseball academy		101,904	110,217
Other income		109,709	4,058
		<u>1,590,749</u>	<u>1,480,019</u>

NOTE 4: CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash on hand		100	100
Cash at bank		54,301	9,354
Cash on deposit		269,630	456,951
		<u>324,031</u>	<u>466,405</u>

NOTE 5: RECEIVABLES

CURRENT

Trade debtors		124,206	75,422
Provision for doubtful debts		(10,582)	(4,727)
		<u>113,624</u>	<u>70,695</u>

Impairment of trade receivables

Trade receivables are non interest bearing. An impairment loss is recognised when there is objective evidence that an individual trade receivable is impaired.

Movements in the accumulated impairment losses were:

Opening balance at 1 October 2016		(4,726)	(14,668)
Charge for the year		(5,855)	9,942
Closing balance as at 30 September 2017		<u>(10,581)</u>	<u>(4,726)</u>

Aged Analysis

Trade receivable ageing analysis as at 30 September:

	Gross 2017 \$	Impairment 2017 \$	Gross 2016 \$	Impairment 2016 \$
Not past due	42,853	-	42,181	-
Past due 31-60 days	310	-	22,031	-
Past due 61-90 days	13,875	-	63	-
Past due more than 91 days	67,169	(5,855)	11,147	9,942
	<u>124,206</u>	<u>(5,855)</u>	<u>75,422</u>	<u>9,942</u>

BASEBALL VICTORIA INCORPORATED
ABN: 78 603 120 057

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Year Ended 30 September 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
NOTE 6: INVENTORIES			
Inventory held for sale		6,876	9,536
NOTE 7: PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT			
Plant and Equipment			
Motor vehicles at cost		45,454	45,454
Accumulated depreciation		(33,147)	(29,045)
		<u>12,307</u>	<u>16,409</u>
Office equipment at cost		47,655	50,602
Accumulated Depreciation		(46,081)	(46,255)
		<u>1,574</u>	<u>4,347</u>
Computer equipment at cost		4,603	-
Accumulated Depreciation		(3,437)	-
		<u>1,166</u>	<u>-</u>
Baseball equipment at cost		9,335	-
Accumulated Depreciation		(700)	-
		<u>8,635</u>	<u>-</u>
Total property, plant and equipment		<u>23,682</u>	<u>20,756</u>

a) Reconciliations

Reconciliation of the carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the current financial year

<i>Motor vehicles</i>			
Opening carrying amount		16,409	21,880
Additions		-	-
Disposals		-	-
Depreciation expense		(4,102)	(5,471)
Closing carrying amount		<u>12,307</u>	<u>16,409</u>
<i>Office equipment</i>			
Opening carrying amount		4,347	5,469
Additions		(2,947)	2,947
Disposals		-	-
Depreciation expense		174	(4,069)
Closing carrying amount		<u>1,574</u>	<u>4,347</u>
<i>Computer equipment</i>			
Opening carrying amount		-	-
Additions		4,603	-
Disposals		-	-
Depreciation expense		(3,437)	-
Closing carrying amount		<u>1,166</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>Baseball equipment</i>			
Opening carrying amount		-	-
Additions		9,335	-
Disposals		-	-
Depreciation expense		(700)	-
Closing carrying amount		<u>8,635</u>	<u>-</u>

BASEBALL VICTORIA INCORPORATED
ABN: 78 603 120 057

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year Ended 30 September 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
NOTE 8: INTANGIBLE ASSETS			
Patents, trademarks and licences at cost		<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>
a) Reconciliations			
Reconciliation of the carrying amounts of intangible assets at the beginning and end of the current financial year			
<i>Patents, trademarks and licences at cost</i>			
Opening balance		<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>
Closing balance		<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>
NOTE 9: OTHER ASSETS			
CURRENT			
Prepayments		<u>36,823</u>	<u>20,367</u>
		<u>36,823</u>	<u>20,367</u>
NON-CURRENT			
Foundation, sponsorship and other funds held in trust		<u>55,540</u>	<u>55,672</u>
		<u>55,540</u>	<u>55,672</u>
NOTE 10: PAYABLES			
CURRENT			
<i>Unsecured Liabilities</i>			
Trade creditors		-	-
Sundry creditors and accruals		<u>16,855</u>	<u>13,668</u>
		<u>16,855</u>	<u>13,668</u>
NOTE 11: BORROWINGS			
CURRENT			
<i>Secured liabilities</i>			
Chattel mortgage liability		14,809	8,348
Unexpired term charges		<u>(479)</u>	<u>(1,544)</u>
		<u>14,330</u>	<u>6,804</u>
NON-CURRENT			
<i>Secured liabilities</i>			
Chattel mortgage liability		-	13,900
Unexpired term charges		<u>-</u>	<u>(479)</u>
		<u>-</u>	<u>13,421</u>
NOTE 12: PROVISIONS			
CURRENT			
Employee Benefits		<u>21,915</u>	<u>30,929</u>
NON-CURRENT			
Employee Benefits		<u>2,316</u>	<u>5,731</u>
a) Aggregate employee benefits liability		24,231	36,660

BASEBALL VICTORIA INCORPORATED
ABN: 78 603 120 057

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Year Ended 30 September 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
NOTE 13: OTHER LIABILITIES			
CURRENT			
Deferred Income		<u>211,211</u>	<u>294,315</u>
NON-CURRENT			
Foundation, sponsorship and other funds held in trust		<u>55,540</u>	<u>55,672</u>
 NOTE 14: CASH FLOW INFORMATION			
a) Reconciliation of cash			
Cash at the end of the financial year is shown in the statements of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the statement of financial position as follows:			
Cash on hand		100	100
Cash at bank		54,301	9,354
At call deposits with financial institutions		<u>269,630</u>	<u>456,951</u>
		<u>324,031</u>	<u>466,405</u>
 b) Reconciliation of cash flow from operations with surplus after income tax			
Surplus from ordinary activities after income tax		15,518	81,193
 Adjustments and non-cash items			
Depreciation		8,065	9,540
Trade receivables provision and impairment		5,855	(9,942)
 Changes in assets and liabilities			
(Increase)/decrease in receivables		(48,784)	(9,571)
(Increase)/decrease in other assets		(16,324)	(8,519)
(Increase)/decrease in inventories		2,660	(9,536)
Increase/(decrease) in payables		3,187	(5,005)
Increase/(decrease) in other liabilities		(83,236)	43,084
Increase/(decrease) in provisions		<u>(12,429)</u>	<u>21,177</u>
		<u>(141,006)</u>	<u>31,228</u>
Cash flows from operating activities		<u>(125,488)</u>	<u>112,421</u>

BASEBALL VICTORIA INCORPORATED
ABN: 78 603 120 057

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year Ended 30 September 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
NOTE 15: CAPITAL AND LEASING COMMITMENTS			
a) Finance Lease Commitments			
Payable			
- not later than one year		14,809	8,348
- later than one year and not later than five years		-	13,900
Minimum lease payments		14,809	22,248
Less future finance charges		(479)	(2,023)
Total finance lease liability		<u>14,330</u>	<u>20,225</u>
Represented by:			
Current liability		14,809	6,804
Non-current liability		-	13,421
		<u>14,809</u>	<u>20,225</u>
b) Operating lease commitments			
Non-cancellable operating leases contracted for but not capitalised in the financial statements:			
Payable			
- not later than one year		-	12,891
- later than one year and not later than five years		-	-
		<u>-</u>	<u>12,891</u>
General description of leasing arrangement - Rental of Office and Office Equipment			

NOTE 16: ASSOCIATION DETAILS

The registered office and principal place of business of the association is:

Baseball Victoria Incorporated
Level 2, Sports House
375 Albert Road
Albert Park Victoria 3206

BASEBALL VICTORIA INCORPORATED
ABN 78 603 120 057

STATEMENT BY THE DIRECTOR'S

In the opinion of the director's the financial report as set out on pages 3-15:

1. Presents fairly the financial position of Baseball Victoria Incorporated as at 30 September 2017 and performance for the period ended on that date in accordance with the Accounting Standards in Australia and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards.

2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Baseball Victoria Incorporated will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with the resolution of the director's and is signed for and on behalf of the director's by:

President:



Myle Foreman

Finance Director:



James van Beek

Dated this day 8th January 2018

Moore Stephens Audit (Vic)

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BASEBALL VICTORIA INCORPORATED

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial report being a special purpose financial report, of Baseball Victoria Incorporated, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 September 2017, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the period then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and statement by the directors.

In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Baseball Victoria Incorporated as at 30 September 2017, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Associations Incorporation Reform Act of Victoria 2012 (and its associated Regulations).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of Baseball Victoria in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 of the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the directors' financial reporting responsibilities under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act of Victoria 2012 (and its associated Regulations). As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose

Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the Baseball Victoria are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate. The directors' responsibility also includes such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the ability of Baseball Victoria to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate Baseball Victoria or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.


As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control;
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Baseball Victoria's internal control;
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by directors;
- conclude on the appropriateness of director's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on Baseball Victoria's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause Baseball Victoria to cease to continue as a going concern; and

- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

MOORE STEPHENS AUDIT (VIC)
ABN 16 847 721 257



GEORGE S. DAKIS
Partner
Audit & Assurance Services

Melbourne, Victoria

8 January 2018

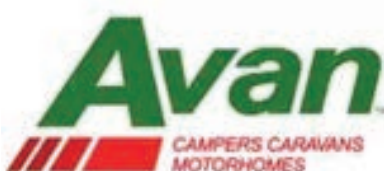


ALL STAR UNIFORMS

New uniform design for the 2017 All Star Teams, based on Melbourne Monarchs and the Waverly Reds.

The VSBL All Star Game will be a feature of the 2018 - 2019 Season.

MELBOURNE ACES SUPPORTERS



PARTNERS



豪日交流基金
Australia-Japan FOUNDATION

Australian Government

PATHWAY PROGRAMS



SUPPORTERS





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