

## WEEKLY MEMO

TO:	VSBL CLUB PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES, MEMBERS
DATE:	JULY 26, 2019
FROM:	BASEBALL VICTORIA
SUBJECT:	U16 STATE WINTER CHAMPIONSHIPS, U12 STATE WINTER CHAMPIONSHIPS, VIC HEALTH ACTIVE CLUB GRANTS, LEWIS THORPE MAJOR LEAGUE WIN, ZOE ALLEN

### U16 State Winter Championships in Latrobe Valley

We had a wonderful weekend in Latrobe Valley for the U16 State Winter Championships. Congratulations to our 2019 U16 State Winter Champions, Diamond Valley!

An impressive all-around team effort helped Diamond Valley put together a comeback to win the Grand Final over Geelong with a final score of 10-3. We were treated to beautiful winter weather the entire weekend as players from Dandenong, Diamond Valley, Geelong, Latrobe Valley, Ringwood and Sunraysia had an amazing time. Plus, Nick Bertucci of Dandenong won the U16 Home Run Derby sponsored by Ausport with a terrific performance.



Thanks to the support of Latrobe City Council, Viva and Ausport, as well as the efforts of Latrobe Valley Baseball Association, Morwell Cougars and Traralgon Redsox Baseball Clubs, this tournament was a huge success for the Victorian baseball community. Well done to all players, coaches and spectators on a great

weekend. View photos from the U16 SWC on our Facebook:  
<https://www.facebook.com/pg/BaseballVictoria/photos>



### **U12 State Winter Championships at Werribee**

It's time to finish the winter tournament season on a high note with the U12 State Winter Championships at Werribee Baseball Club this weekend! We're looking forward to an action-packed weekend, with 24 competitive games, as well as an Infield Relay and Home Run Derby!

We are so excited about our partnership with event apparel company The Regatta Shop, which we hope will create a more memorable tournament experience. The Regatta Shop will be there both days, selling tee shirts and hoodies that they will print to order on-site. We are hopeful that this first event with The Regatta Shop will be a success, and that we can continue this partnership for many events and tournaments to come. Ausport and Wyndham City Council will also be on hand for the tournament. We wish every player the best of luck, and we can't wait to see what this weekend has in store! The U12 schedule, rosters and GameChanger LiveScoring hub are available on our website:

<http://baseballvictoria.com.au/Tournaments/2019-State-Winter-Champs/Under-12>

### **VicHealth Active Club Grants**

Several weeks ago, we shared the exciting news that two of our Victorian clubs, Research Lower Plenty and Heathmont, had received VicHealth Active Club Grants. This funding is designed to increase participation opportunities for Victorians in community sport, and there's additional funding available through the This Girl Can campaign designed to get more girls and women active in sport and recreation and give them the safe space to participate. The next round of applications will open next week on Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> July 2019, and we encourage our community clubs to learn more and take advantage of this valuable funding: <https://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/funding/active-club-grants>

### **Lewis Thorpe – First Major League Win**

Victorian Lewis Thorpe was called up by the Minnesota Twins at the end of June for his first Major League start, and his amazing year continued this past week when he was recalled and earned his first big league win against the New York Yankees. Thorpe entered the game in the top of the sixth and gave up a double and an RBI single before steadying and retiring the side on a double play. He went on to retire six straight as the Twins won 8-6 against the Yankees. This was a massive moment for Thorpe, who played for

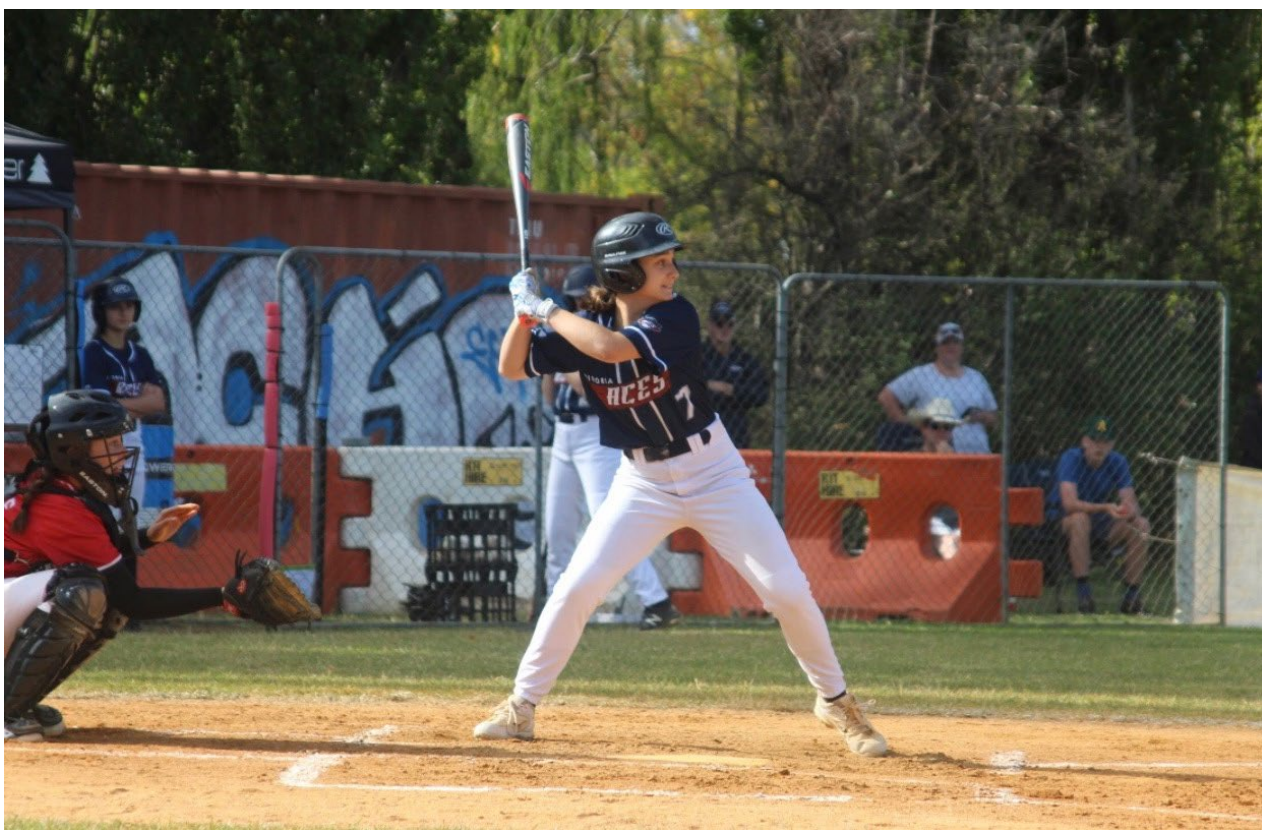
Doncaster Dragons and Greenhills Montmorency as well as the Melbourne Aces. He has made the Victorian baseball community so proud, and we can't wait to see what the future holds for him in the MLB.

### Zoe Allen Discovers Love of Baseball

Zoe Allen has had a big year with baseball. Even though she only started playing in October of last year, the fifteen-year-old has made amazing progress in less than twelve months. Zoe is a perfect example of what young athletes can accomplish when given the opportunity to grow and develop in a spot they love. Since joining Preston Baseball Club last summer season, she's quickly taken to her beloved 3rd base position, and she even scored a spot on the 2019 Victorian Youth Women's Team. Despite a slow start the squad pulled off a fabulous comeback, taking home the bronze medal and making the Victorian baseball community very proud. "Winning bronze showed the team how all of our hard work paid off," Zoe said. "Playing really well against all the teams was a great achievement, and coming home to score the winning run was for sure one of my favourite moments."

Read more about Zoe and her awesome year in baseball on our website:

<http://baseballvictoria.com.au/News-Events/zoe-allen-continues-to-improve-with-baseball-victorias-development-pathway-representative-opportunities>



### The BV Team

**Jeff Paull** – Acting CEO / General Manager of Baseball Operations

**Kellie Thomas** - Operations Coordinator

**Kelsey Quinn** – Competitions and Tournament Manager

**Rachael Bouley** - Communications and Digital Media Coordinator

**Tania Newcombe** - Financial Controller

**Damian Shanahan** – Talent Development Manager

**Stewart Howe** - Umpires Coordinator

**Greg Tinkler** – National Coaching Accreditation Coordinator

**Jo Schutt** – Sporting Schools Coordinator

