

# INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS  
DATE: 28 OCTOBER 2022  
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA  
SUBJECT: VSBL, U23 WORLD CUP, UMPIRE UPDATE, PRO SIGNING, FLOOD ASSISTANCE, LOCAL SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE FUND, GET ACTIVE KIDS, COLLEGE INFO, BV TV, LIFEBLOOD

## 2022/23 VSBL Season

We are nearly a month into the 2022/23 VSBL season, and we hope all our juniors, seniors, and masters have enjoyed summer baseball so far. Well done to clubs and grounds crew on working through the wet weather and doing their best to get as many baseball games up and running as possible.

You can view fixtures, results, and ladders [HERE](#) and if any new players, coaches, or volunteers still need to register, please do so [HERE](#). As a reminder, only registered members are covered by insurance.

Follow us on [VSBL Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) for updates and good luck to all this weekend.

## Victorians at U23 World Cup

Liam Evans, Blake Townsend, Matt Beattie, Chris Burke, and Jarryd Dale made Victoria and Australia proud at the U23 Baseball World Cup! Team Australia finished sixth overall and Chris Burke was named to the All-World Team following his stellar performance. Well done to all our representatives – we can't wait to see what the future holds for these talented baseballers. Catch up on World Cup photos and results on [Facebook](#).



Photo: [Team Australia](#)

## **BV Umpire Update**

Umpires play a crucial role in our beloved sport, and we need to continue recruiting umpires to support and ultimately grow the game. Anyone who is interested in game day management and being a leader on the field is encouraged to explore the [BV Umpire Pathways Program](#).

BV umpires receive training and skills development, insurance coverage, and paid opportunities to officiate grassroots baseball games. We would love to see more players, coaches, and supporters participate in baseball behind the plate. Please help us spread the word and submit our [umpire expressions of interest](#) or contact [umpiringpw@baseballvictoria.com.au](mailto:umpiringpw@baseballvictoria.com.au) to learn more about umpiring.

## **Darcy Longstaff Signs Professional Contract With The Cincinnati Reds**

Congratulations to Victorian Darcy Longstaff, who has signed a professional contract with the Cincinnati Reds. Longstaff, a product of Waverley Baseball Club, will head across to Spring Training in 2023.

He will join Queenslander Ben Walmsley within the Reds organisation who has just completed his first professional season. He will also be following in the footsteps of his brother Reece who has just completed his freshman year at Arizona Western.

Well done, Darcy!

## **Community Sport Emergency Flood Assistance Program**

The Victorian Government recently announced the [Community Sport Emergency Flood Assistance Program](#), which will support sport and active recreation organisations directly affected by the October 2022 floods. This funding program will deliver a one-off payment of \$5,000 to directly-affected sport and active recreation organisations across the state, helping them meet some upfront costs of equipment and resource replacement so communities can get back out on the field as soon as possible.

Victorian baseball clubs affected by the flooding can apply for these grants, which will close on 13 January 2023, or when the funding allocation is exhausted. The application process is very simple for those impacted by floods.

Further information, including FAQs, eligibility, and contact details can be found via the [Community Sport Emergency Flood Assistance Program - Sport and Recreation Victoria](#) website.

## **Local Sports Infrastructure Fund Recipients**

Six baseball projects will receive funding through the latest round of the Victorian Government's Local Sports Infrastructure Fund. The statewide grant program offers five funding streams to support inclusive, thriving sports communities.

Congrats to our baseball recipients - we look forward to seeing the progress of these projects moving forward:

- Female Friendly Facilities - Greater Geelong City Council - Lara Recreation Reserve Baseball & Oval Three Pavilion
- Community Sports Lighting - Kingston City Council - Bonbeach St. Chads Baseball Sports Lighting Project
- Community Sports Lighting - Mitchell Shire Council - Broadford Baseball Lighting Upgrade
- Community Facilities - Maroondah City Council - Heathmont Reserve Baseball Diamond Fencing & Dugouts
- Community Facilities - Maroondah City Council - Proclamation Park Baseball Diamond Fence and Dugouts
- Community Facilities - Whittlesea City Council - Mill Park Reserve Softball and Baseball Practice Nets

Read more about the Local Sports Infrastructure Fund [HERE](#).

## Get Active Kids Voucher Program

Applications are now open for the [Get Active Victoria](#) Kids Voucher Program.

Visit [www.getactive.vic.gov.au/vouchers](http://www.getactive.vic.gov.au/vouchers) to find out if your family is eligible for up to \$200 to support children's sport and active recreation activities.

## Save The Date: EducationUSA - US College Programming 2-3 November

As a reminder, there will be two EducationUSA US College programming sessions next week.

The US Consulate General outreach program is offering these EducationUSA sessions for athletes and parents interested in learning more about US College education and sports programs. The free info sessions will be offered in person and over livestream.

Staff travelling from the USA with the [National Junior College Athletic Association](#) and the [National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics](#) will be on hand for these sessions, which are aimed at students in years 9-11, their parents, schools, and athletic stakeholders. NJCAA and NAIA opportunities will be discussed and athletes/parents can ask questions in a forum setting.

**Date:** Wednesday 2 November

**Time:** 5:15pm - 6:45pm AEDT

**Where:** Maribyrnong College - 2 River Street, Maribyrnong 3032

**More info/registration:** <https://bit.ly/EdUSACollegeSportsNov2>

**Date:** Thursday 3 November

**Time:** 5:30pm – 7:00pm AEDT

**Where:** Carey Baptist Grammar School - 349 Barkers Road, Kew 3101

**More info/registration:** <https://bit.ly/EdUSACollegeSportsNov3>

## Baseball Training on BV TV

Don't forget to check out [BV TV](#) and all our [warm-ups](#), [batting drills](#), and [throwing exercises](#). Head to our [media page](#) to stay connected on more platforms, including [Instagram](#), [TikTok](#), and [TeamApp](#).

## Australian Red Cross Lifeblood Teams Program

The BV Lifeblood Team is up to 168 lives saved this year through blood and plasma donations for Australian Red Cross Lifeblood. Thank you all who have teamed up to support Australians in need. Let's keep going - join the BV Lifeblood Team [HERE](#).

## The BV Team

**Chet Gray** – CEO

**Damian Shanahan** – High Performance Officer

**Kellie Thomas** – Operations & Memberships Officer

**Rachael Bouley** – Communications and Digital Media Officer

**Keli'i Zablan** – Player & Coaching Pathway Officer

**Audrina Ning** – Financial Controller

**Randall Vavra** – Umpire Officer – Operations

**Stewart Howe** – Umpire Officer – Pathways

