

# INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS  
DATE: 13 JANUARY 2023  
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA  
SUBJECT: AYC, VSBL, FAIR PLAY CODE, STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS, ABL,  
PERFORMANCE PATHWAY, GRANTS, UMPIRE RECRUITMENT,  
BV TV, TEAM VIC, LIFEBLOOD

## 2023 Australian Youth Championships

The 2023 U16 & U18 Australian Youth Championships are in full swing at Blacktown International SportsPark, with our Victorian teams making the most of an amazing opportunity to represent on the national stage.

Our players joined their peers from around the country in a pre-tournament showcase before games began on Thursday. In the U16 competition, Victoria put up a great effort but fell just short, finishing 6-4 behind South Australia. It was a close battle in the U18s too, with Victoria holding on for a 5-3 victory over SA.

The U16s picked up their first win on Friday with a 9-5 result over NSW Country, while the U18s recorded a 14-0 victory, collecting 13 hits and giving up just three.

Catch up on all the latest #AYC2023 action on our [website](#), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#).

You can also view schedules, GameChanger, livestream information, and player profiles below:

- [U16 Australian Youth Championship event hub](#)
- [U18 Australian Youth Championship event hub](#)
- [U16 & U18 Victorian State Teams](#)

Best of luck to our state teams!



2023 U16 Victorian State Team

## 2022/23 VSBL Season

We hope everyone has enjoyed the break and is ready to get back to baseball next weekend. We are excited for the second half of the season and look forward to seeing lots more baseball fun and success stories around the grounds at local clubs.

In preparation for finals, we are pleased to confirm VSBL Women's Super Saturday will be held at Melbourne Ballpark on Saturday 11 March 2023. This action-packed day will feature five grand finals across Women's Division 1, 2, and 3.

The following weekend of 18-19 March will see VSBL Division 1 Firsts and Division 2 Firsts battle it out for grand final glory at the ballpark.

View all fixtures, results, and ladders [HERE](#) and make sure to follow [VSBL on Facebook](#) to stay up-to-date on all things Summer League.

### Fair Play Code

As we head back into summer baseball, we would like to remind all baseball clubs and members of the Victorian Government's 2022 [Fair Play Code](#). This is an update of the 2018 blueprint that sets out the standards of behaviour expected of everyone involved in sport and active recreation. Sporting organisations that receive funding from the Victorian Government must actively promote, adhere to, and enforce the Fair Play Code. This includes Baseball Victoria and our member clubs.

At the heart of the Fair Play Code are the five principles:

- Integrity
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Safety
- Fairness

The Fair Play Code is a guide on how to apply the principles and the responsibilities of those involved in sport. These principles apply to everyone, no matter what role they play. Positive and appropriate actions and behaviours of each and every one of these individuals are essential to ensuring safe, fair, and inclusive sporting environments.

There is no place in sport for bad behaviour, violence, cheating or intimidation. As an individual, team, club, league or association, if you encounter bad behaviour, either on or off the sporting field, refer to the Fair Play Code.

For more information, please visit the SRV website: <https://sport.vic.gov.au/publications-and-resources/community-sport-resources/fair-play-code>

Thank you in advance for your support in making baseball a safe and inclusive sport for all.

### Dates & Venues Announced For 2023 Little League State Championships

Baseball Victoria is pleased to announce dates and venues for the 2023 Little League State Championships.

Senior, Junior, and Intermediate League will be held at Geelong Baseball Centre from 14-16 April and Little League Major, Minor, and Development is scheduled for 21-23 April at Knox.

"Thank you to Guild All-Stars, East Belmont Saints, Deakin, and Knox for stepping up to host the 2023 Little League State Championships," Baseball Victoria CEO Chet Gray said. "We're looking forward to a fantastic tournament season and can't wait to see young baseballers make the most of this opportunity to represent their charter and improve their skills."

Read more [HERE](#).

## **2022/23 ABL Season**

It's the Aces' final home series of the season, so get on down to Melbourne Ballpark to catch ABL action in person. Geelong-Korea is also at home, taking on Auckland at Geelong Baseball Centre.

If you can't make it this weekend, there's one more game at Melbourne Ballpark on Tuesday 17 January between the Aces and GK, with first pitch at 7pm.

Tickets are available [HERE](#) or you can check out the livestream [HERE](#).

## **BV Performance Pathway: 2023 Futures U12 & U14 Tryouts**

[Futures U12/U14 East and West](#) tryouts are coming up! As part of our new Performance Pathway (PP), the 2023 Futures tier will include U12 and U14 players who are top performers for their age group at the club, Little League, and Junior League levels.

This tier is open to U12 players (born 2011 and 2012) and U14 players (born 2009 and 2010). The Futures pathway is a step beyond the existing charter program and offers high-performing players the chance to further develop their skills and pursue representative opportunities.

Sign up for tryouts [HERE](#) or view the [Performance Pathway hub](#) for more information.

## **Applications Now Open for 2023 BV Development Grants Program**

Applications for the 2023 BV Development Grants Program are open through Tuesday 31 January. This round of funding is for Category 2 (winter clubs or associations) and will provide grants for activities and events aimed at driving participation and the growth of our sport at the grassroots level.

Activities may include come-and-try days, junior gala days, baseball equipment, female participation programs, All Abilities programs, club-driven school events and more.

Click [HERE](#) to read more and view the program guidelines. Please visit our [Available Grants](#) page for details on additional funding opportunities.



*Springvale Baseball Club's Diamond Girls Gala Day, supported by the BV Development Grants program.*

## **BV Umpire Recruitment Program**

Umpires play an important role in our great game, and we would love to see more officials to get involved and lead the way in gameday management. As we ramp up our umpire recruitment efforts to build a stronger umpiring fraternity, we ask all clubs to show their support for these initiatives:

- **BV Green Shirt Program** – we are requesting three recommendations per VSBL club for potential green shirt umpires, who demonstrate an interest in officiating and wish to learn more through a basic umpiring course. This program will introduce participants to the BV Umpire Development Pathway. Submit recommendations [HERE](#) and get a free box of balls for your club.
- **BV Green Vest Program** – All VSBL clubs received four green vests for beginner officials to wear, identifying them as volunteers/umpires in training. We hope this will help build greater understanding amongst players, parents, spectators, and coaches. Don't forget to send in green vest photos to be entered into a prize drawing!
- **Umpire Info/Training Sessions** – BV Umpire Officers are ready to host more info/training sessions at local clubs. North Western, Williamstown, and Geelong had sessions for beginner officials before the break, and Fitzroy is signed up for February. Please contact [umpiringpw@baseballvictoria.com.au](mailto:umpiringpw@baseballvictoria.com.au) for more details.

### Baseball Training on BV TV

Keep up the momentum this new year with [BV TV warm-ups](#), [batting drills](#), and [throwing exercises](#). Check out our [media page](#) to stay connected on all platforms, including [Instagram](#), [TikTok](#), and [TeamApp](#).

### SSV Team Vic Registrations

School Sport Victoria is now accepting Team Vic registrations for the 18 Years and Under Baseball team, closing 2 February 2023. The School Sport Victoria Team Vic representative program provides a development platform for Victoria's emerging student-athletes to compete at the annual School Sport Australia (SSA) Championships.

Register now for this incredible opportunity to trial for Team Vic Baseball:

- [Team Vic homepage](#)
- [Team Vic information sheet 2023](#)
- [Team Vic Baseball](#)

### Australian Red Cross Lifeblood Teams Program

It's a new year with a new goal for the BV Lifeblood Team. After saving 200 lives last year through blood and plasma donations for Australian Red Cross Lifeblood, we hope to save even more lives in 2023.

Please help us reach our goal of 300 lives saved – you can learn more about Lifeblood and join the BV Team [HERE](#).

### The BV Team

**Chet Gray** – CEO

**Damian Shanahan** – High Performance Officer

**Kellie Thomas** – Operations & Events 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

**Lea Squadrito** – Administration Officer

