

# INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS  
DATE: 15 SEPTEMBER 2023  
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA  
SUBJECT: VSBL, TEAM AUSTRALIA, MY SPORT LIVE, AYC, YOUTH WOMEN'S PROSPECTS, GREATREX, SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMPS, EVENTS, UMPIRES, BROOKDALE, COACHES, CLUB NEWS, SALESIAN, SUPPORTER GEAR, BV TV, LIFE BLOOD

## 2023/24 VSBL Season

Summer registration is now open ahead of the 2023/24 VSBL season, which will start on 7 October. Please click [HERE](#) to access your club link and register today. As a reminder, all players, coaches, and volunteers must register to be covered by insurance.

We are also pleased to share that [VSBL fixtures](#) are now live via our website. We hope to see everyone out on the diamond soon!

## Team Australia Takes on Under 18 World Cup

We are so proud of Team Australia and their efforts at the 2023 Under 18 Baseball World Cup in Taiwan.

Victorian players Declan Speirs, Jack Ratcliffe, Jayden Kim, and Lachlan Smith all had impressive performances alongside their teammates from around the country. They fought hard and never gave up against tough opponents, coming away with three big victories on the world stage.

We can't wait to see where their baseball journeys take them next!



Photo: [Chrisports](#)

## My Sport Live Locked in as Diamond Partner, Streaming Provider for 2023/24 VSBL Finals

Baseball Victoria is excited to announce My Sport Live has signed on to the BV Diamond Partnership Program and will serve as our official streaming partner for the 2023/24 VSBL Finals.

My Sport Live is a sports promotion company offering a range of services to help sporting organisations and events grow, including livestreaming, video production, and podcasting.

After working with My Sport Live in 2020 and 2021, Baseball Victoria is pleased to secure their streaming solutions to once again showcase the strength of summer baseball during exciting grand finals.

“Thank you to My Sport Live for joining the BV Diamond Partnership Program and supporting VSBL Grand Finals livestreaming,” Baseball Victoria CEO Chet Gray said. “We are excited to connect the Victorian baseball community through livestreams and we can’t wait for an awesome summer of baseball ahead.”

The My Sport Live team shares the sentiment and looks forward to further supporting baseball in Victoria.

“Streaming is a great way to shine a spotlight on VSBL teams and showcase the best in Victorian summer baseball,” My Sport Live Managing Director Andrew Weiss said. “It will be fantastic to bring awesome baseball action to the screen to finish this summer season off strong as teams chase premiership glory.”

Learn more about [My Sport Live](#) and the [BV Diamond Partnership Program](#).



## Tryout Registration Open for 2024 Australian Youth Championships

Tryout registration is open for Victorian State Teams ahead of the 2024 Australian U16 and U18 Youth Championships next January. We will be sending one U16 and one U18 team to the national championships, with dates and venue TBA by Baseball Australia.

Tryouts will be held on the following dates:

- U16: Saturday 7, 14, 21 October and 28 October (if required)
- U18: Monday 9, 16 October (positional players), Tuesday 10, 17 (pitchers/catchers), 24 October (all players)

Tryout venue: Melbourne Ballpark, Merton Street, Altona Meadows      Times: TBC

A training program will follow throughout November and December leading up to the Australian Youth Championships. Please click [HERE](#) to register for tryouts.



## **BV Performance Pathway: 2023 Youth Women's Prospects Tryout Registration**

Tryout registration is also open for the Youth Women's Prospects Program as part of the new BV Performance Pathway. The Youth Women's Prospects Pathway is a step beyond the existing club program and offers high-performing players the chance to further develop their skills and pursue representative opportunities.

A tryout will take place on Saturday 14 October for players born between 2003 and 2008 who are the top performers in their club. Tryouts and training will be at Newport Baseball Club from 8:30-11am.

The program will be run over seven weeks under the leadership of both Samantha Hamilton (Victorian Women's Head Coach) and Dean Anglin (Victorian Youth Women's Head Coach).

"We're thrilled to announce the Youth Women's Prospects Program. Our main objective is to provide young female athletes with more opportunities to sharpen their skills," Hamilton elaborated. "Our dedication to reinforcing key aspects of their game and preparing them to compete at the next level is our focus."

"The potential within Victoria's emerging baseball talent is incredibly promising, and we're excited to be a part of their ongoing path to growth and achievement, both within the game and beyond. We're also committed to upskilling those coaches within the Baseball Victoria Coaching Panel, ensuring a holistic approach to player development."

The cost of the program will be approx. \$550, which includes quality coaching, Prospect playing cap, and training top.

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



## **Greatrex Sporting Goods Joins BV Diamond Partnership Program**

Baseball Victoria is pleased to welcome Greatrex Sporting Goods to the BV Diamond Partnership Program at the Home Run level.

Greatrex Australia specialises in baseball, softball and tee-ball equipment, and was established 48 years ago by former Australian baseballer Kevin Greatrex and his wife Judy. Now owned and operated by the couple's children Jay and Kelly, Greatrex remains a trusted supplier of quality playing equipment and uniforms for baseballers around the country.

“Thank you to Greatrex for joining the BV Diamond Partnership Program,” Baseball Victoria CEO Chet Gray said. “It’s fantastic to have this long-standing baseball equipment supplier on board, and we greatly appreciate their support of Victorian and Australian baseball.”

Greatrex offers a wide range of playing equipment from brands including Wilson, Mizuno, Easton, Louisville Slugger, Nike, New Balance, Franklin, All Star, and many more.

“We’re excited to be a part of Baseball Victoria’s Diamond Partnership Program and look forward to working with the team at BV,” Director Kelly Greatrex said. “We are always looking to support grassroots baseball organisations and associations with equipment, uniforms and their baseball needs.”

Learn more on their official website: [www.greatrex.com.au/](http://www.greatrex.com.au/)



### **2023 BV Spring Training School Holiday Camps – Almost Sold Out!**

We can’t wait for BV Spring Training School Holiday Camps starting next week. Most sessions are sold out, but we still have a few spots left for our all-girls camp at Melbourne Ballpark and the 9-11 year old camp at Sandringham Baseball Club.

Learn more and register [HERE](#).

### **Baseball Victoria Calendar of Programs & Events**

We have a busy month of baseball ahead with BV School Holiday Camps, Barclay Cup training, and umpire accreditation courses. Check out all September events [HERE](#).

### **BV Behind the Mask Community Umpiring Session Coming Up at Essendon Baseball Club**

Baseball Victoria is excited to launch our [Behind the Mask Umpire Program](#) and will offer a free community umpiring session at Essendon Baseball Club on Tuesday 19 September.

Starting at 6:30pm, the BV Umpiring Working Group and Technical Officer will present a community course for new umpires who wish to officiate at the beginner level.

All new and potential umpires are asked to register their interest [HERE](#).

Click [HERE](#) to view more info.



## **BV Behind the Mask Umpire Program - Free Accreditation Courses at Knox Baseball Club**

The [BV Behind the Mask Umpire Program](#) and FREE umpire accreditation courses will also be available on Saturday 23 September – Sunday 24 September at Knox Baseball Club.

National Umpire Director Brett Robson will lead these community and association umpire courses, which are open to new umpires or umpires who wish to refresh their skills.

All new and potential umpires are asked to register their interest [HERE](#).

Click [HERE](#) to view more info.

## **Baseball Victoria at Brookdale Reserve Come and Try Days**

We are excited to offer come and try days at the new Brookdale Reserve in Point Cook as part of Wyndham City Council's Active Holidays program. Save the date and stay tuned for registrations opening 18 Sept on the [council website](#).

# BROOKDALE RESERVE COME AND TRY DAYS

25 - 26 September

Brookdale Road Reserve,  
2 Brookdale Road  
Point Cook  
3030

EMAIL OR CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
[DEVELOPMENT@BASEBALLVICTORIA.COM.AU](mailto:DEVELOPMENT@BASEBALLVICTORIA.COM.AU)  
(03) 9645 8000





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## **Baseball Victoria Canopi Coach Accreditation Platform**

Thank you to all the coaches who have signed up to use the [Canopi system](#) to track and complete Baseball Australia's coach accreditation through the USA Baseball Certification Level A, B, and C courses.

We have recently updated our accreditation guidelines to make it easier for coaches to complete their education.

Head to our [coaching hub](#) for more details and to get started today.

### **Club News: Come & Try Days**

Fitzroy Baseball Club has a women's come and try session this Saturday at 10am while Werribee is running a come and try day for all ages from 10am to noon on Saturday.

View more details on all club ads [HERE](#) and please feel free to send in any upcoming events or club news you would like to share. Thank you!

### **Club News: Volunteer Resources**

Sporting clubs and organisations can now access a one-stop-shop for free resources and practical tools to help get the most out of the volunteering experience.

The Australian Sports Commission and Sport Volunteer Coalition have co-designed the Sport Volunteer Resource Hub with the sporting community to ensure it provides best-practice support to volunteers no matter their age, gender, background, sport, or volunteer role.

Click [HERE](#) to learn more.

### **Baseball Victoria and Salesian College Sports Academy Team Up in New Partnership**

Baseball Victoria is pleased to partner with Salesian College Sports Academy in Chadstone, which plans to introduce a baseball program by Year 7, 2025, subject to student enrolment.

We hope Salesian College will become a hub for secondary school students to pursue their academic and baseball goals in Melbourne's eastern suburbs. Learn more about [Salesian College Sports Academy](#) and click [HERE](#) to book a tour.

Families interested in enrolling or who have already done so are encouraged to contact Sports Academy Coordinator Stephen Sellwood at [ssellwood@salesian.vic.edu.au](mailto:ssellwood@salesian.vic.edu.au) to ensure they also complete a Sports Academy application.

### **BV Supporter Gear By Fullhammer Now Available**

Head to [our Fullhammer shop](#) to stock up on 2023 Barclay Cup merch, plus beanies, caps, bucket hats, and scarves from our official apparel partner. Learn more about Fullhammer [HERE](#).

### **Baseball Training on BV TV**

Want to work on your baseball skills at home? Head to [BV TV](#) to check out our [At-Home Baseball Training](#) and [Top Throwing Drills](#). Follow us on [Instagram](#) and [TikTok](#) for fun training clips and resources.



## Australian Red Cross Lifeblood Teams Program

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. Our team has already saved 129 lives this year as we aim to top 300 – 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

**Michelle Coote** – Administration Officer

**David Nagy** – Performance Pathway Coordinator

**Brooke Penfold** – Technical Officer

**Randall Vavra** – Umpire Officer - Operations

**Daniel Chircop** – Pathways/MSA Coach

**Samantha Hamilton** – Performance Pathway Coach

