

INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS
DATE: 8 SEPTEMBER 2023
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA
SUBJECT: SUMMER REGISTRATION, TEAM AUSTRALIA, AYC, YOUTH WOMEN'S PROSPECTS, SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMPS, STATE TEAM COACHES, BAZOOKA SPORTS, EVENTS, UMPIRES, COACHES, CLUB NEWS, SALESIAN, SUPPORTER GEAR, BV TV, LIFEBLOOD

Summer Registration Now Open for 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.

Thank you and we look forward to a fantastic summer of baseball!

Team Australia Takes on U18 World Cup

Team Australia continues their 2023 Under 18 Baseball World Cup campaign with the Placement Round in Taiwan. Although Australia missed out the Super Round after some close losses, they are in the running for world ranking points, which will determine who qualifies for the 2024 Premier-12 tournament.

Four Victorians are on the roster: catcher Declan Speirs and infielders Jack Ratcliffe, Jayden Kim, and Lachlan Smith. BV High Performance Officer Damian Shanahan is the team's assistant coach.

Follow along with their journey on [Team Australia socials](#), including tonight's game vs. Venezuela at 8pm.



Photo: [WBSC](#)

Australia Gears up for the Asia Professional Baseball Championships in Tokyo

In more Australian baseball news, Team Australia will return to the famous Tokyo Dome in November to take on some of the world's best in the Asia Professional Baseball Championship (APBC).

The championship pits the best Under-24 players from the Nippon Professional Baseball (NPB, Japan), Korean Baseball Organization (KBO, South Korea), Chinese Professional Baseball League (CPBL, Taiwan) and Australian Baseball League (ABL) against each other. The tournament will be played from 16-19 November.

Read the full story [HERE](#) and stay tuned for updates on the tournament roster.

Tryout Registration Open for 2024 Australian Youth Championships

Baseball Victoria is pleased to open tryout registration 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 8:30am-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.



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

We can't wait for BV Spring Training School Holiday Camps later this month. 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 Announces 2024 State Team Coaches

In case you missed it, we have confirmed coaching appointments for 2024 Victorian State Teams, which will represent at the Australian Championships early next year.

"Thank you to these dedicated coaches from the BV Coaching Panel for stepping up to lead our state teams to success on the national stage," BV CEO Chet Gray said. "We are looking forward to the Australian Championships and know our AYC, AWC, and AYWC teams are in good hands with such experienced and supportive coaches."

Congrats to all officials appointed thus far. Assistant and pitching coaches will be appointed in the coming weeks.

Victorian U16 State Team

- Manager: Ben Laux
- EO: Jason Davis

Victorian U18 State Team

- Manager: Marshall Skinner
- EO: Taryn Richardson

Victorian Women's State Team

- Manager: Samantha Hamilton
- EO: Ursula Howard

Victorian Youth Women's State Team

- Manager: Dean Anglin
- EO: Erin Collis

Bazooka Sports Joins BV Diamond Partnership Program

Baseball Victoria is pleased to announce Bazooka Sports has joined the BV Diamond Partnership Program at the Home Run level.

As an Australian-owned sporting goods business, Bazooka Sports is a trusted supplier of premium Brett baseballs, Bazooka pitching machines, fielding gloves, and much more.

“Thank you to Bazooka Sports for supporting baseball in Victoria and supplying high-quality baseballs for our premier competition,” BV CEO Chet Gray said. “We are excited about this new partnership and look forward to working with Bazooka Sports more in the future to bring innovative baseball gear to our players.”

Bazooka Sports is on a mission to help athletes achieve their maximum potential by getting the best sporting tools into their hands. The team is passionate about sport and has a long history within the Australian baseball and softball community.

“Our goal is to help athletes at all levels get better and have fun in the process, and our equipment is designed with this in mind,” Bazooka Sports Director Brett Pickett said. “We are proud to support Victorian and Australian baseball and help players and coaches succeed on the field.”

Learn more about Bazooka Sports: bazookasports.com.au.



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 Umpire Program

The BV Behind the Mask Umpire Program and FREE umpire accreditation courses will be available on Saturday 23 September – Sunday 24 September at Knox Baseball Club. National Umpire Director Brett Robson will lead these 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](#).

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

With the summer season just a month away, local clubs are planning come-and-try days, including Essendon, Fitzroy, and Moorabbin this weekend. 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 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

