

# INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS  
DATE: 20 OCTOBER 2023  
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA  
SUBJECT: VSBL, PLAYERS OF THE WEEK, BASEBALL5, OLYMPICS, AWC, ACES, BROOKDALE, CLUB NEWS, BV TV, COACHES, SALESIAN, LIFEBLOOD

## 2023/24 VSBL Season

The 2023/24 Victorian Summer Baseball League season is off to a great start with all senior and junior competitions now underway. Thank you to everyone who has joined us for summer baseball so far – we can't wait to see what the season has in store!

Good luck to everyone playing this weekend and please feel free to send/tag us in your photos so we can share.

As a reminder, all players, coaches, and volunteers must register to be covered by insurance. Please click [HERE](#) to access your club link and register today. You can also view all VSBL fixtures, results, and ladders [HERE](#).

## VSBL Players of the Week

In case you missed it, Baseball Victoria has introduced VSBL Player of the Week Awards for the 2023/24 VSBL season.

Each week, a standout player will be recognised for their achievements across senior men, senior women, and junior competitions. Winners will demonstrate exemplary performance, leadership, sportsmanship, and commitment to baseball.

Nominations will be accepted from the Baseball Victoria Board, staff, member clubs, member parents, registered baseball players, scorers, umpires, and anyone else associated with affiliated clubs of BV.

Please submit your nominations at the links below by the EOD Monday for the previous weekend of play.

- [VSBL Senior Men's Player of the Week](#)
- [VSBL Junior Player of the Week](#)
- [Aces Sporting Club VSBL Women's Batter of the Week](#)
- [Aces Sporting Club VSBL Women's Pitcher of the Week](#)

We would also like to acknowledge BV Diamond Partner [Aces Sporting Club](#) for their support with the Women's Batter/Women's Pitcher awards, as well as [Ausport](#) for giving each winner a \$25 gift voucher.

Weekly winners will be announced on the [VSBL Facebook page](#). Congratulations to our week 2 winners Aaron Toporek, Declan Tayler, Shiori Hoshino and Bronwyn Gell.

## Victorian and NSW Players Represent Australia at Youth Baseball5 World Cup in Türkiye

We are so proud of the inaugural Team Australia Baseball5 team who took part in the WBSC Youth Baseball5 World Cup in Ankara, Türkiye!

Victorian girls Jessica Warwick, Amelia Wright, and Chelsea Nunn played alongside fellow baseballers from NSW on the world stage - something they will remember forever.

Thank you to Baseball NSW for sharing this opportunity, and Allie Bebbere and Adrian Medina for guiding these players through the tournament, which they finished on a high note with a win over Zambia.

Congrats to all involved!



Photo: [WBSC](#)

### **Baseball Confirmed For 2028 Olympic Games in Los Angeles**

Baseball is back in the Olympics! The International Olympic Committee confirmed Monday that baseball, softball, flag football, squash, cricket and lacrosse will all be included on the roster of sports for the 2028 Games in Los Angeles.

This opens up exciting opportunities for Victorian and Australian baseballers in the coming years – click [HERE](#) to read more.

### **2024 Victorian Women's & Youth Women's State Team Tryouts Registration Now Open**

Baseball Victoria is pleased to open tryout registration for the Victorian Women's and Youth Women's State Teams ahead of the 2024 Australian Championships next April.

Tryouts will be held on Saturday 9 December and 16 December, with the venue and times TBD. A training program will follow the selection process in preparation for the Australian Women's & Youth Women's Championships.

Please click [HERE](#) to register for tryouts.

### **Melbourne Aces Seek Volunteers for 2023/24 ABL Season**

The Australian Baseball League season kicks off next month, and Melbourne Aces are looking for volunteers to help out at the ballpark!

Volunteer duties include box office/ticketing, ticket scanners, ushers in seated/corporate areas, and general set-up/pack-down.

If you would like to join the Aces family, please email Danny for further information at [dkendall@melbourneaces.com.au](mailto:dkendall@melbourneaces.com.au).

## **Baseball Victoria Partners With Wyndham City Council for Brookdale Reserve Activation Project**

Thank you to everyone who joined us for come-and-try days at Brookdale Reserve earlier this month. Our partnership with Wyndham City Council is off to a strong start with 100 players signed up for our Play Ball Pioneers program, which runs every Wednesday through 13 Dec.

Led by BV Development Officers Ethan Epifanio and Dennis Neal, this introduction to baseball is focused on running, hitting, throwing, and catching skills, and it's free to participate with no equipment needed.

Click [HERE](#) to sign up or contact [development@baseballvictoria.com.au](mailto:development@baseballvictoria.com.au) for more info.

## **Club News: Hub Coordinators for Umpiring Working Group**

Baseball Victoria is now accepting applications for hub coordinators, with six volunteer positions within the club structure to continue our ongoing support and growth of the baseball umpiring program in Victoria.

Hub coordinators will work alongside the BV Umpiring Working Group and Technical Officer to support recruitment initiatives and help deliver our Behind the Mask Beginner Umpire Program. Please view the position description for more info [HERE](#) and submit your interest [HERE](#).

## **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.

## **Club News: Get Active Kids Voucher Program**

Applications are now open for the Get Active Victoria Kids Voucher Program, which gives eligible families up to \$200 to cover the costs of sports membership and registration fees. Click [HERE](#) to view more info and resources for families and clubs who want to sign up.

## **Baseball Training on BV TV**

Work on your baseball skills at home with [BV TV](#) videos, including [At-Home Baseball Training](#) and [Top Throwing Drills](#). Follow us on [Instagram](#) and [TikTok](#) for fun training clips and resources, too.



## 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.

Our updated accreditation guidelines make it easier for coaches to complete their education. Head to our [coaching hub](#) for more details and to get started today.

## 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.

## Australian Red Cross Lifblood Teams Program

Our Australian Red Cross Lifblood team has saved 156 lives this year with blood and plasma donations. You can learn more about Lifblood 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** – Umpiring Working Group Operations Staff Support

**Tony McPherson** – Tournament Officer

**Daniel Chircop** – Pathways/MSA Coach

**Samantha Hamilton** – Performance Pathway Coach

