

# INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS  
DATE: 27 OCTOBER 2023  
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA  
SUBJECT: VSBL, PLAYERS OF THE WEEK, YOUTH WOMEN'S PROSPECTS, TEAM AUSTRALIA, BV STAFF, AWC, CHARTER STATE CHAMPS, BROOKDALE, ACES, CHILDREN'S PICNIC, CLUB NEWS, BV TV, COACHES, SALESIAN, LIFE BLOOD

## 2023/24 VSBL Season

The 2023/24 Victorian Summer Baseball League season is well underway with juniors, seniors, and masters enjoying a busy start to summer baseball. It's great to see both returning players and new faces at local clubs, and we can't wait for the next few months of baseball!

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 3 winners Harper Rickard, Kai-Er Yang, Sam Deebler, and Aya Miyaki!

## BV Performance Pathway: 2023 Youth Women's Prospects Announced

Baseball Victoria is excited to share player selection for the BV Performance Pathway Youth Women's Prospects Program.

This pathway is a step beyond the existing club programs, offering high-performing players the opportunity to further develop their skills and pursue representative opportunities.

The initial training session of the seven-week program took place last Saturday. Samantha Hamilton, the Victorian Women's Head Coach, and Dean Anglin, the Victorian Youth Women's Head Coach, along with their dedicated coaching staff, are guiding these young female athletes to elevate their skills for enhanced competition.

"The trials showcased a remarkable pool of talented players, underscoring the strength and potential in youth and women's baseball across our state," Hamilton said. "We are proud to provide these young athletes with more opportunities to refine their skills and compete at the highest levels. Moreover, we are committed to supporting our coaches within the Baseball Victoria Coaching Panel, ensuring a comprehensive approach to player development."

Congratulations to our 2023 Youth Women's Prospects:

- Ruby Benne
- Jasmine Bentley
- Jessica Brown
- Ruby Dale
- Keeley Harrison
- Kira Jansen
- Eden Neave
- Chelsea Nunn
- Mackenzie Prentice-Evans
- Macy Priamo
- Kendra Rutgers
- Lilly Simpson
- Emma Sullivan
- Maddi Weller
- Amelia Wright



#### **Victorians Named to Team Australia Roster for Asia Professional Baseball Championship**

[Team Australia](#) has unveiled a roster with a mix of World Baseball Classic experience, professional pedigree, and emerging Aussie talent for the upcoming 2023 Asian Professional Baseball Championship.

17 players on the roster have professional experience in the United States and all have strong connections to the Australian Baseball League. This includes six Victorians: Billy Parsons, Dan McGrath, Matt Beattie, Jarryd Dale, Liam Spence, and Chris Burke.

Australia will travel to Tokyo to take on Japan, Korea and Chinese Taipei at the WBSC-sanctioned event from 16-19 November. Read the full announcement [HERE](#).

### **Baseball Victoria Welcomes Allie Bebbere as Operations & Competitions Officer**

Baseball Victoria is pleased to announce the appointment of Allie Bebbere as Operations & Competitions Officer.

A long-time Victorian women's baseball representative, Allie is excited to join BV and make a difference in her beloved sport.

"I am grateful for this new opportunity to play a valuable role in Victorian baseball by overseeing BV operations and competitions," Allie said. "I hope my passion for supporting and growing the sport and my experience as a player and EO will serve me well as we work together to make baseball bigger and better across the state."

Allie has played baseball since 2014, with six selections to the Victorian Women's State Team and a 2022 AWC Golden Arm Award. She also played for the inaugural Victoria Aces team that won the 2022 Australian Women's Baseball Showcase.

Following her international debut for Team Australia at the 2023 WBSC Women's World Cup, she was listed to MLB.com's All-Star Team. Most recently, Allie returned from a trip to the WBSC Youth Baseball5 World Cup where she served as Australia's EO.

"Allie is a great addition to our team with her knowledge of the competition and desire to grow all levels of baseball in Victoria," BV CEO Chet Gray said. "Her professional experience includes four years with the Y Whittlesea, giving her a strong understanding of child safety and youth recreation, coupled with her background in women's baseball. We are excited to have her and look forward to a great summer of baseball and beyond."

Please join us in welcoming Allie to the team! She can be reached at [competitions@baseballvictoria.com.au](mailto:competitions@baseballvictoria.com.au).

Allie is taking over for Kellie Thomas, who will finish up her role with BV at the start of November.

Thank you to Kellie for 5+ years of dedicated service to baseball in Victoria!





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

As a reminder, tryout registration is open 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.

## **Expressions of Interest for 2024 Charter State Championship Coaches & EOs**

Expressions of interest are now open for head coaches, assistant coaches, and executive officers at the 2024 Charter State Championships next April.

Athletics, Mariners, Mets, Rangers, and Twins will need accredited coaches to lead teams in Senior, Junior, Intermediate, and Little League.

Please click [HERE](#) to submit your interest.

## **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 140 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.





### **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).

### **Wyndham City Children's Week Picnic**

What a fantastic day out at the Wyndham City Children's Week Picnic! Thank you to Werribee Giants Baseball Club for joining us as we introduced many young kids and families to our game.

It was awesome to be involved and we look forward to welcoming the next generation of baseballers to our sport!



### **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](#).

If you would like to learn more about umpiring and get behind the plate this summer, please learn more on [our website](#) and complete expressions of 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 Lifeblood Teams Program

Our Australian Red Cross Lifeblood team has saved 165 lives this year with blood and plasma donations. 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

**Allie Bebbere** – Operations & Competitions 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

