

INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS
DATE: 3 NOVEMBER 2023
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA
SUBJECT: BV STAFF, STATE TEAMS, VSBL, PLAYERS OF THE WEEK, YOUTH WOMEN'S PROSPECTS, AWC, CHARTER STATE CHAMPS, EVENTS, BROOKDALE, ACES, CLUB NEWS, BV TV, COACHES, SALESIAN, LIFELOOD

Baseball Victoria Says Farewell to Operations & Events Officer Kellie Thomas

Baseball Victoria wishes to acknowledge the tireless contributions of Kellie Thomas, who steps down from her role as Operations & Events Officer as of Friday 3 November.

Kellie has been an invaluable member of the BV team for 5+ years and she will be missed by her colleagues and the baseball community. During her time at BV, Kellie has overseen a number of areas, including memberships, competitions, tournaments/events, office operations, and administration.

"On behalf of Baseball Victoria, thank you to Kellie for all she has done to support our sport," BV CEO Chet Gray said. "Her dedication, team leadership, and work ethic have made a positive difference to our organisation and baseball across the state. We wish her all the best in her new endeavours and know she will do a fantastic job just like she did with baseball."

Kellie thanks BV and the Victorian baseball community for all the memories over the past five years.

"I am proud of everything we accomplished and how we navigated the challenges of COVID-19 and growing grassroots sport," Kellie said. "I believe baseball in Victoria is in a better place and I will continue to cheer on our athletes and clubs from afar. I know our operations and competitions are in good hands with Allie Bebbere and she will pick right up where I left off."

Thank you to Kellie for 5+ years of dedicated service to baseball in Victoria and best of luck in the future.

Please email Allie at competitions@baseballvictoria.com.au with any queries regarding VSBL.

Baseball Victoria Announces State Teams For #AYC2024

Baseball Victoria is thrilled to announce the U16 & U18 Victorian State Teams, which will compete on the national stage at the 2024 Australian Youth Championships early next year.

"We are proud of our 2024 Victorian State Team athletes and looking forward to a strong AYC campaign," BV High Performance Officer Damian Shanahan said. "We had a great turnout with 150 players trying out for the U16 & U18 teams, and following our rigorous selection process, we finalised two impressive state team rosters with exciting potential to shine at nationals."

"It's a massive achievement for these baseballers to represent their state, and we are confident in their abilities and determination to be the best they can be on and off the field. We are excited to continue training with a highly experienced coaching staff leading the way."

Victoria most recently won bronze in both the U16 and U18 age groups at the 2023 Australian Youth Championships and will be looking to go one step further at the upcoming tournament.

“We wish our U16 & U18 teams the best of luck, and we are excited to see their progress over the next few months,” BV CEO Chet Gray said. “Thank you to all the players who tried out and congratulations to our Victorian representatives. Thank you also to our head coaches, assistant coaches, and executive officers who will prepare our junior baseball talent for success against tough competition from around the country.”

Stay tuned for more tournament updates as the countdown to #AYC2024 begins. We will share the official event announcement with dates and venues once confirmed by Baseball Australia.



U16 VICTORIAN STATE TEAM

#AYC2024



Brandon Elton	Lachlan Brennan
Buster Vos	Liam Puncher
Cooper Bishop-Worn	Mitchell Langworthy
Cooper Busch	Ned Johnson
Daniel Williams	Riley Peoples
Euan Clarkin	Roman Coote
Harrison Brodie	Ryley Shanks
Jai DiBlasi	Samuel Land
Jake Bertucci	Samuel Walk
Jordan Ellis	Windsor Breckenridge
Ben Laux (head coach)	Daniel Chircop (pitching coach)
Trifon Stafilis (assistant coach)	Val Langworthy (EO)



U18 VICTORIAN STATE TEAM

#AYC2024



Addison Bishop-Worn	Matthew Johnston
Aimon Dowling	Robinson Smith
Andrew Land	Ryder Wilson
Ben Howard	Tane Graham
Devin Leahy	Tanner Stack
Ethan Johnston	Ty Daniels
Hamish Stone	Will Cavanagh
Hudson Pally	Will Kent
Jack Ratcliffe	William Hardy
Jayden Kim	
Marshall Skinner (head coach)	Tim Ballard (pitching coach)
Simon Ratcliffe (assistant coach)	Taryn Richardson (EO)

2023/24 VSBL Season

We are a month into the 2023/24 Victorian Summer Baseball League season, with juniors, seniors, and masters enjoying our beloved game. We are pleased to see clubs adding new junior and women's sides, and we look forward to the rest of the season!

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

Thank you to everyone who has submitted nominations for VSBL Player of the Week Awards. It's been great to see the amazing contributions of our athletes and we are excited to share many more throughout the season.

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 are announced on the [VSBL Facebook page](#). Congratulations to our week 4 winners Robinson Smith, Tane Graham, Minna Ng, and Jess Johnson.

BV Performance Pathway: 2023 Youth Women's Prospects Announced

Last week, we shared player selections for the BV Performance Pathway Youth Women's Prospects Program, and their training is off to a great start!

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. Read more about our Youth Women's Prospects [HERE](#).



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 Calendar of Programs & Events

We have a big month of baseball ahead with training for our U16 & U18 Victorian State Teams and Youth Women's Prospects, plus Team Australia at the U23 Oceania Qualifier and Asia Professional Baseball Championship. Check out all November events [HERE](#).

Brookdale Reserve Activation Project Off to a Great Start With Play Ball Pioneers

Play Ball Pioneers are having a blast! 140 players have signed up for this program, which runs every Wednesday through 13 Dec. Led by BV Development Officers Ethan Epifanio and Dennis Neal, this introduction to baseball focuses on running, hitting, throwing, and catching skills, and it's free to participate with no equipment needed.

This has been a great start to our Brookdale Reserve Activation Project with Wyndham City Council, and we look forward to lots more baseball fun to come. Click [HERE](#) to sign up or contact development@baseballvictoria.com.au for more info.



Melbourne Aces Seek Volunteers for 2023/24 ABL Season

The Australian Baseball League season kicks off this 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.

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, head to [our website](#) and complete expressions of interest [HERE](#).

Club News: Volunteer Resources

Sporting clubs and organisations can 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 to ensure they also complete a Sports Academy application.

Australian Red Cross Lifeblood Teams Program

Our Australian Red Cross Lifeblood team has saved 168 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

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

Tony McPherson – Tournament Officer

Daniel Chircop – Pathways/MSA Coach

Samantha Hamilton – Performance Pathway Coach

