

INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS
DATE: 19 APRIL 2024
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA
SUBJECT: STATE CHAMPS, SHOWCASE, AWC, PROSPECTS, VSBL AWARDS, CAMPS/COACH ED, UMPIRES, SSV, CLUB NEWS, CHANGE OUR GAME, BELLES, VIS, SALESIAN, HONOUR ROLLS, BV TV, LIFEBLOOD

2024 Junior League & Senior League State Championships

Rangers are the 2024 Junior League and Senior League State Champions!

Congrats to Rangers, runners-up Athletics, and all the teams, players, and supporters who made this past weekend a success. Thank you to Guild All-Stars and East Belmont Saints for hosting another year of State Championships.

Check out [GameChanger recaps](#) from the final day of Junior League and Senior League play. Field of View Sports Photography has a huge selection of [State Champs photos](#), too.

Head to baseball.com.au for info on Little League Nationals.



Rangers Junior League



Rangers Senior League

Victoria Aces Player Announcements for 2024 Australian Women's Baseball Showcase

Baseball Victoria and the Melbourne Aces are pleased to confirm the Victoria Aces are locked in for the 2024 Australian Women's Baseball Showcase, set for 9-12 May in Lismore. The full Aces roster will be revealed over the next week, with Morgan Doty, Anna Kimbrell, Abbey McLellan, Allie Bebbere, Lili Cavanagh, and Abbey Kelly announced so far.

Stay tuned to [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) for more player announcements throughout the week. Read more about the Showcase [HERE](#).

Gold Medal Glory: Victoria Wins 2024 Australian Women's Championship

In case you missed it, our Victorian Women's State Team went 7-0 to win gold at the 2024 Australian Women's Championship earlier this month. Lili Cavanagh won MVP, Allie Bebbere won the Golden Arm, and Abbey Kelly won the Golden Glove.

Kira Kuwamoto and Chelsea Nunn (Youth) received the [NO MORE Spirit of the Game Award](#).

Congratulations to our national champions - we couldn't be prouder!

Catch up on the [latest recaps](#) and photos/videos on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

Baseball Victoria Performance Pathway: 2024 Prospects Tryout

Baseball Victoria is pleased to announce an upcoming tryout for the 2024 Performance Pathway Prospects Squad. This session will be held on Wednesday 1 May at Melbourne Ballpark from 5:30pm to 7pm.

This tryout is only open to those players born 2006/2007/2008/2009 who have NOT previously attended a tryout for a 2024 State Team Program (AYC/AWC/AYWC) or the 2024 Futures Program.

Click [HERE](#) to register.

2023/24 VSBL Season Award Winners

This week we announced the final award winners for the 2023/24 VSBL season:

- Volunteer of the Year: Patrick White – Blackburn
- Coach of the Year: Adam Bright – Waverley
- Umpire of the Year: Denis Dalzotto
- Premier League Club Champion: Upwey Ferntree Gully
- State League Club Champion: St Kilda

Thank you to everyone who took part in another great VSBL season, and a special congratulations to our award winners on their outstanding performances. Click [HERE](#) to catch up on all the award winners.

BV School Holiday Camp & Coach Education Regional Visits

Thank you to everyone who attended our BV School Holiday Camp and Coach Education session last week in Bendigo. We had a great time with plenty of on-field fun for juniors and a productive workshop for coaches and those interested in getting accredited. We look forward to more regional visits in the future!



Victorian Umpires Recognised for Excellence in Umpiring

Congratulations to two Victorian umpires recently recognised for their excellent work behind the plate. Paul Carthy won the NO MORE Spirit of the Game Award for all umpires at the Australian Women's and Youth Women's Championships. This award was presented to Paul for setting a positive example through his commitment to fair play, teamwork, community, and respect on and off the field.

VSBL Umpire of the Year Denis Dalzotto received this award for his hard work umpiring each week and his support of the umpiring community. He plays a pivotal role in managing the umpire assignment platform, providing clarity on rules, and helping to recruit additional umpires into the fold.

We appreciate these umpires and acknowledge everything they do to ensure our great game is fair and enjoyable for all.

2023 Victorian School Sports Awards

In case you missed it, School Sport Victoria has announced the winners of 2023 Victorian School Sports Awards, including Bodhi Evans (Outstanding Sporting Achievement) and Declan Speirs (Sporting Blue Award). Congratulations to these baseballers on their fantastic achievements on and off the field!

Learn more about the [SSV Awards](#).

Club News: Baseball Australia Unveils New Education App

Baseball Australia encourages all coaches to download the Baseball Australia Education App, available through Apple and Google Stores, as well as online.

The App is designed to provide current and aspiring coaches with a free resource for online courses, certification information/links, guidelines, and upskilling opportunities.

Read the full story [HERE](#) or head to coaching.baseballaustralia.com.au to get started.

Club News: Winter Registration

Best of luck to everyone playing winter baseball! As a reminder, all players, coaches, volunteers, and officials must be registered to participate and be eligible for insurance coverage. Click [HERE](#) for winter registration links.



Club News: Modernisation of Summer Baseball: Transition Working Group Recommendations

We appreciate the ongoing collaboration and support from our VSBL clubs as we look to improve and grow our game through the Modernisation of Summer Baseball Plan.

Now that the summer season is over, we invite all VSBL presidents and secretaries to a meeting on **Wednesday 1 May at 7pm at Essendon Baseball Club** to review recommendations from the Transition Working Group for the 2024/25 season.

Please note that in order to accommodate all VSBL clubs, a maximum of **two representatives per club** will be allowed to attend the presentation.

Please RSVP to ceo@baseballvictoria.com.au by Monday 29 April and check your email for the full list of recommendations.

Club News: Sport and Recreation Victoria Funding

Applications are open for several grant programs through Sport and Recreation Victoria, including:

- [Significant Sporting Events Program](#) – closing 30 April
- [Emergency Sporting Equipment Grant Program](#) – closing 31 May

For more info, please visit the [official SRV website](#).

Club News: Traralgon Redsox 60th Anniversary

Traralgon Redsox will celebrate 60 years of baseball on Saturday 20 April with the McLean Cup Game at 1pm, followed by an anniversary function at 6:30pm. The night is open to all current and past players and their families, as the Redsox look forward to sharing stories and reminiscing about great times at the club. Check out the [Facebook event page](#) for more details.

Club News: WWCC and Child Protection/Sports Integrity

If you have children at your club, whether it be for junior competitions or family events, please keep in mind the updated [Working with Children Check](#) and Child Protection/Sports Integrity guidelines.

All club volunteers, including committee members, coaches, umpires, scorers, groundskeepers, and canteen staff, must have a valid WWCC with a list regularly maintained by the club. We ask that all club committee members also complete the [11 Child Safe Sport Modules](#).

Change Our Game Research on Importance of Representation in Community Sport

New research supported by the Office for Women in Sport and Recreation highlights the important influence women in coaching and officiating roles have on children.

Research by Victoria University found that increased representation and visibility of women in coaching and officiating roles in community sport can challenge attitudes and positively influence unconscious gender bias of children associating men in these roles.

The key findings revealed:

- previous experience with a woman as a coach positively influenced children's belief that women can be great coaches
- parental attitudes greatly influence their children's attitudes
- satisfaction levels of girls with having a woman as a coach and/or official was higher than for boys

Click [HERE](#) to read more about this research funded by the *Change Our Game* Research Grants program.

Belles: A Baseball Story

In a new video by Michael Serpell, the Belles all-girls team showcased their amazing journey across state and national tournaments. Click [HERE](#) to view or watch below.



Victorian Institute of Sport Women in Coaching Showcase

The Victorian Institute of Sport will host a Women in Coaching Showcase on Tuesday 30 April from 10am to 3pm at Lakeside Stadium, Albert Park. Click [HERE](#) to register your attendance.

VICTORIAN WOMEN IN COACHING SHOWCASE



Showcasing the bright spots of Victorian High Performance and Pathway Coaching Initiatives

We would like to welcome you to a VIS event:

🕒 Tuesday April 30th, 10am-3pm

📍 Lakeside Stadium, Albert Park

👥 For Victorian Sport Leaders,
Coach Developers/Managers
and Pathway and HP Coaches.



RSVP by the 22nd of April: [HERE](#)

The Showcase will:

- Share the current objectives and resources of the AIS Women in High Performance Coaching Project
- Share the Bright Spots of work in Victoria to support the pipeline of women in coaching.
- Provide a networking opportunity for Victorian Sport Organisations with potential catalyst for joint initiatives



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.

Baseball Victoria War Service Honour Rolls

Baseball Victoria is committed to creating and maintaining an honour roll of baseball players who have served in war and peacekeeping missions since 1915. It is difficult to imagine a modern-day player's career being interrupted so dramatically, and we will be forever grateful for their service and sacrifices in our Australian armed services. Visit [our website](#) for more info.

Baseball Training on BV TV

Practice 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 more fun training clips and resources.

Australian Red Cross Lifeblood Teams Program

Last year, our Australian Red Cross Lifeblood team saved 195 lives with blood and plasma donations. You can learn more about Lifeblood and join the BV Team [HERE](#) as we keep saving lives in 2024.

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

Ethan Epifanio – Development Officer

