

## INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS  
DATE: 26 APRIL 2024  
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA  
SUBJECT: GIRLS LITTLE LEAGUE, SHOWCASE, FEMALE PARTICIPATION, RYAN WILLIAMS, LIAM SPENCE, PREMIER12, SCORING CLINICS, BV HOODIES, VSBL AWARDS, UMPIRES, CLUB NEWS, CHANGE OUR GAME, VIS, SALESIAN, HONOUR ROLLS, BV TV, LIFE BLOOD

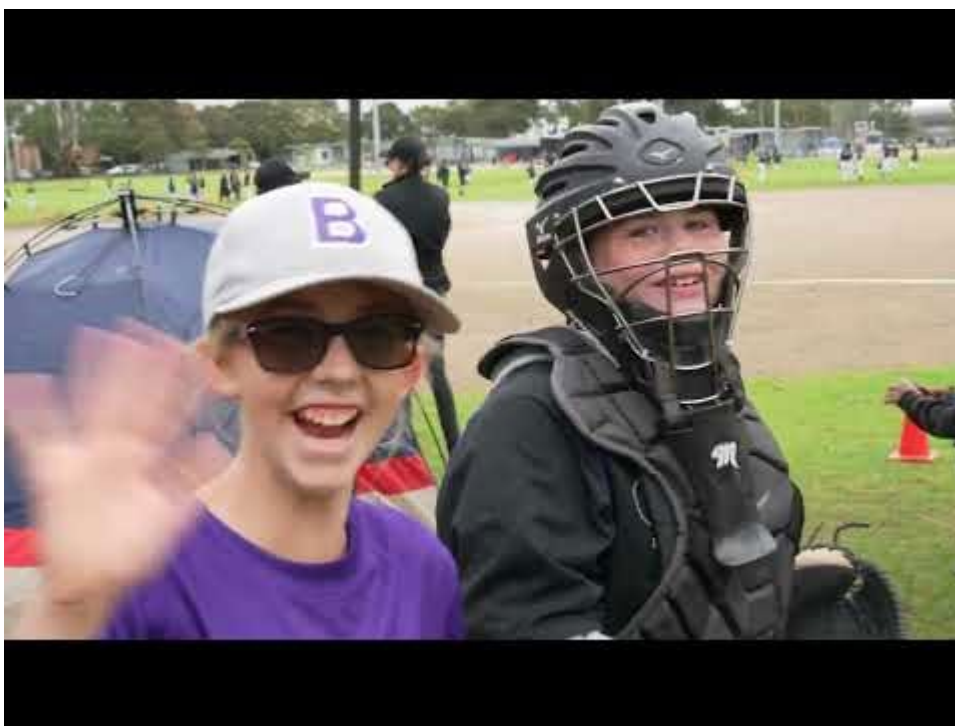
### [Schedule Released for World's First Little League Girls Division National Championships](#)

The 2024 Australian Little League Girls Division Championships will take place in Lismore from 8-12 May, and the Belles are getting ready to represent Victoria!

This will be the first time a country hosts national championships for a girls-only division in Little League.

Read more and check out the full schedule on [baseball.com.au](http://baseball.com.au).

Plus, check out the Belles Baseball Story video by Michael Serpell [HERE](#) or watch below.



### [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.

Head to [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) to catch up on all our player announcements throughout the week.

Read more about the Showcase [HERE](#).

2024  
**AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S BASEBALL SHOWCASE**

Supported by  
NSW GOVERNMENT BASEBALL ABL

# Schedule

9 T H M A Y

3:30PM **AG** VS **WARRIORS** 6PM **AG** VS **ACES**

1 0 T H M A Y

3:30PM **WARRIORS** VS **ACES** 6PM **WARRIORS** VS **AG**

1 1 T H M A Y

3:30PM **ACES** VS **AG** 6PM **ACES** VS **WARRIORS**

**FINAL: 12TH MAY 5PM**

Watch live on **Baseball+**

### Female Participation Growth Focus Groups

To grow our game, female coaches and umpires are essential. The state government has recognised this importance and has funded a project where one component is to gain insights to assist in developing our Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan targeted to female coaches and umpires.

We are seeking expressions of interest from women who are currently baseball coaches and/or umpires, as well as 15-18-year-old females interested in potentially becoming a coach or umpire. Please click [HERE](#) to submit your interest in joining these focus group sessions, which will be led by a third-party partner from Victoria University.

### 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.

### **Victorian Two-Way Player Ryan Williams Commits to College Baseball Program**

Congratulations to Ryan Williams on his commitment to Coffeyville College to continue his baseball and academic career.

Williams is a left-handed pitcher and hitter from Sandringham Baseball Club who represented Victoria in the U16 and U18 State Team Program and scored an invite to last year's U18 National Camp.

Read the full story [HERE](#).

### **Liam Spence Signs Pro Contract With Sioux Falls Canaries of American Association**

Two-time ABL Champion and World Baseball Classic player Liam Spence has signed with the Sioux Falls Canaries of the American Association.

The Victorian joins the Canaries with the season starting on 10 May. Read the full update [HERE](#).

### **Australia to Open 2024 WBSC Premier12 vs World #1 Japan**

Australia's group in the 2024 Premier12 has been revealed. Australia will play in Group B with Japan, Korea, Chinese Taipei, Cuba and Dominican Republic from 14-18 November.

Australia will open Group B action with a game in Nagoya, Japan vs the World #1 Japanese side. The two teams will then fly to Taipei, Taiwan for the rest of the games.

Group A will be played in Mexico. The Group A teams are USA, Mexico, Netherlands, Panama, Puerto Rico and Venezuela.

After round-robin play, the top two finishers of each group will compete in the Super Round. The first and second-place teams of the Super Round will compete in the Premier12 Championship game, while the third and fourth-place finishers will play for a bronze medal.

Click [HERE](#) to read the full WBSC release.



Photo: [WBSC](#)

### **Level 1 Baseball Scoring Clinics and Accreditation**

Victorian Baseball Scorers Inc. (VBS) has scoring clinics coming up next month with registrations now open for Level 0 and Level 1. Check out all the details and register your interest [HERE](#).

## Baseball Victoria Hoodies for Sale

We have a selection of Baseball Victoria branded hoodies in stock with grey and navy colours available in adult sizes. Hoodies are \$55 each including shipping. Email [administration@baseballvictoria.com.au](mailto:administration@baseballvictoria.com.au) or call the BV Office on (03) 9645 8000 if you would like to place an order.

## 2023/24 VSBL Season Award Winners

In case you missed it, last 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.

## 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.

## Club News: Baseball Australia Unveils New Education App

Baseball Australia encourages all coaches to download the new BA 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](http://coaching.baseballaustralia.com.au) to get started.

## 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.

As a reminder, 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](mailto:ceo@baseballvictoria.com.au) by Monday 29 April and check your email for the full list of recommendations.

## **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: 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: 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.

## **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.



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

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



## 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.

## 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

