

INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS
DATE: 24 MAY 2024
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA
SUBJECT: SSV, NATIONALS, VOLUNTEERS, ALL-GIRLS INVITATIONAL, VSBL SURVEY, AYC COACHES, BARCLAY CUP COACHES, EVENTS, UMPIRES, FINANCE DIRECTOR, CLUB NEWS, HOODIES, SALESIAN, BV TV, HONOUR ROLLS, LIFEBLOOD

Maribyrnong College Wins 2024 SSV Intermediate Baseball State Finals

Congratulations to Maribyrnong College on winning the School Sport Victoria Intermediate Baseball State Finals! They edged out Irymple Secondary College by a score of 4-0, with the runners-up traveling a whopping 630km over six hours to compete. Great job to both teams on a fantastic display of baseball!



Maribyrnong Sports Academy baseballers win SSV Intermediate State Championship. Photo: [SSV](#)

Victorian Baseballers Represent on National Stage

It's been a big month of baseball for Victorians representing at national tournaments, with [Victoria Aces](#) and [Victoria Belles](#) both winning silver during an action-packed week in Lismore, NSW for the 2024 Australian Women's Baseball Showcase and Little League Girls Championship. [Athletics and Rangers](#) also represented on the Senior League stage, with Intermediate and Junior League coming up next week.

Catch up on all the action [HERE](#).

National Volunteer Week

It's National Volunteer Week, and we would like to thank all the dedicated volunteers who make a difference to baseball in Victoria.

We have over 900 registered volunteers who give so much time and energy to our grassroots game to ensure a safe and fun environment for everyone.

Volunteer coaches, scorers, umpires, committee members, groundskeepers, canteen workers, and many more club volunteers keep baseball going and ensure a bright future for our sport.

Thank you volunteers for all you do!



3 CHEERS FOR VOLUNTEERS



The bottom of the graphic features four logos: the Australian Government coat of arms, the Australian Sports Commission logo, the AIS logo, and the Baseball Victoria logo which includes a baseball and the text 'BASEBALL VICTORIA'.

2024 All-Girls Winter Invitational Expressions of Interest

Baseball Victoria is seeking expressions of interest for All-Girls Winter Invitational players and coaches.

The tournament is for players aged 12-16 and will run from 29-30 June in Bendigo alongside the U14 State Winter Championships.

Please click the following links to submit your interest: [All-Girls Invitational - Players](#) and [All-Girls Invitational - Coaching](#).

Have Your Say: 2023/24 VSBL Member Survey

Baseball Victoria is pleased to offer VSBL participants the opportunity to provide feedback on the 2023/24 season with our [Member Survey](#).

If you played, coached, volunteered, or umpired last season, please complete the survey to help us plan for next season and continue improving our grassroots baseball competition.

Click [HERE](#) to complete the survey by 31 May 2024.

BV Coaching Staff Expressions of Interest for 2025 AYC

Baseball Victoria will once again enter teams to participate in the Australian U16 and U18 National Championships to be held in January 2025 at Blacktown International Sportspark, NSW.

"Our teams have a very rich and successful history competing at the National Championship level and we are seeking coaches who want to lead our teams to future success," BV CEO Chet Gray said.

Expressions of interest are now open for manager (head coach), assistant coach, pitching coach, and executive officer roles for the U16 and U18 Victorian State Teams.

Click [HERE](#) to learn more and submit your interest by Friday 31 May.



BV Coaching Staff Expressions of Interest for 2024 Barclay Cup

Baseball Victoria will be sending two teams of youth girls (aged 13-16) to the third annual Barclay Cup from 29 September to 5 October 2024. The event will be held at Blacktown International Sportspark in Sydney.

We are now accepting expressions of interest for manager (head coach), assistant coach, pitching coach, and executive officer roles.

Click [HERE](#) to learn more and submit your interest. Applications close Friday 7 June.

Baseball Victoria Calendar of Programs & Events

Our big month of baseball continues with Little League Nationals, Prospect/Select training, and more. View our events calendar [HERE](#) and [follow Field of View Sports Photography](#) for photos from our teams.

Behind The Mask Community Umpiring Training at Brookdale Reserve, Point Cook

The BV Umpiring Working Group, in conjunction with Melbourne Winter Baseball League, continued the delivery of the Behind the Mask program for new umpires over the past two Tuesday evenings. Umpire Operations Officer David Welsh, Development Officer Geoff Dunn, and Member Engagement Manager Alan Sutherland led the sessions at Point Cook Baseball and Softball Club.

The first session was theory, dedicated to umpiring general principles, safety, and common rules, followed by the second session with on-field training. This primarily focused on a single-person umpiring system, including calling balls and strikes from behind the pitcher, moving around the umpire working area, and calling safes and outs at the bases.

We had 11 umpires complete the theory and five continued on to complete the practical session. These new umpires were mums, dads, carers, and juniors from Sunshine, Footscray, Newport, and Port Melbourne Baseball Clubs.

The Working Group would like to thank Neil Douglass from Point Cook Baseball and Softball Club and all of those who attended.

There are more dates for the BTM program being announced soon. If you would like to host an umpire training session, please email technical@baseballvictoria.com.au.



Expressions of Interest Open for Baseball Victoria Finance Director

Baseball Victoria is seeking expressions of interest for a Finance Director to serve on the BV Board, with [applications now open via Sportspeople](#). This is a voluntary leadership position to help grow an evolving state sporting organisation.

The Finance Director is responsible for ensuring that directors and members have appropriate oversight of Baseball Victoria's financial operations.

Click [HERE](#) to learn more and apply - applications close 31 May 2024.

Club News: Save The Date: 2024 Baseball Victoria AGM

We are pleased to provide a Save The Date for the 2024 AGM, which will be held on Wednesday 30 October from 7-9pm. Location TBD. AGM documentation and requirements will be provided closer to the date. Thank you and looking forward to another great year of baseball!

Club News: Game Plan Session at Marvel Stadium

Baseball Victoria is pleased to be participating in The Australian Sports Commission (ASC) Game Plan, and we encourage all our clubs to do the same. An upcoming event will provide an overview of Game Plan and how to use it on **Thursday 30 May from 9:00am to 11:30am at Marvel Stadium (Danvers Room)**.

Game Plan is a free online platform that allows sporting clubs of all sizes to get insights into their current capability in key areas of club administration, then supports ongoing club development with a suite of tools.

Clubs assess and evaluate their own environment, identifying their unique strengths and potential areas for improvement.

Volunteers are the heart of every club. Game Plan makes it easy for club leaders to assess and analyse information about holistic club operations, to make good immediate decisions whilst developing clear plans for the club's future.

Over 3,000 Australian sporting clubs across 78 different sports are gaining key development and capability growth through their use of Game Plan.

Visit the ASC website to learn more: <https://www.sportaus.gov.au/club-development> and submit the [online registration form](#) for up to two attendees per organisation.

SPORTAUS
GAME PLAN



Club News: Sport and Recreation Victoria Funding

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

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

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

Club News: 2024 Children's Week Grants Program

Children's Week is a national celebration that recognises the talents, skills, achievements and rights of children. Children's Week 2024 will be held from Saturday 19 October to Sunday 27 October.

Sporting clubs are encouraged to apply for a grant of up to \$1,000 to contribute to the cost of hosting a Children's Week activity that celebrates the theme "Children have the right to a clean and safe environment".

Click [HERE](#) to learn more – applications close 16 June.



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](#).

Club News: eSafety Webinars Online Safety for Sporting Clubs

eSafety is hosting free webinars for community sport clubs to provide tips and guidance on identifying the risks of online harm and how to deal with it, as well as tips for creating a safe online environment for your club and how to prepare for common online issues. Webinars will be held on Wednesday 29 May at 1pm and Wednesday 5 June at 7pm. Click [HERE](#) to register.

Club News: Rainbow Ready Clubs Program

The Rainbow Ready Clubs program is designed to help sports clubs become more inclusive and supportive of LGBTIQ+ members. It involves educational sessions, policy development, and community engagement strategies aimed at fostering an environment where everyone feels welcome to participate, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

The last few spots available for clubs interested in joining the program:

- 1 spot in Knox City Council
- 3 spots in Cardinia Shire Council
- 2 spots in Nillumbik Shire Council

The program is fully funded and open to any club, regardless of size or sport type.

For clubs interested in learning more or expressing their interest, visit [Proud 2 Play - Rainbow Ready](#).

Club News: New ATO Annual Reporting Changes

National and state sporting organisations and clubs must follow [new requirements](#) for annual reporting to continue accessing an income tax exemption.

Sporting clubs with an active Australian business number (ABN) need to lodge an annual not-for-profit self-review return to continue accessing income tax exemption. Click [HERE](#) for details.

Club News: Doncaster Men's Club Coaching Opportunity

Doncaster Baseball Club is seeking expressions of interest for the role of men's club coach for the 2024/25 summer season and beyond.

The Dragons are seeking an effective communicator who is passionate about player development and helping foster a positive culture across all levels of the club.

For more information about the position or the program, please contact President Duffy Dowling on 0419 263 581 or via doncasterbaseballpresident@gmail.com.

Club News: Updated Certificates of Currency

All clubs/members can now download updated certificates of currency [HERE](#). 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.

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 or call the BV Office on (03) 9645 8000 if you would like to place an order.

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 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.

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.

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

