

# INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS  
DATE: 19 JULY 2024  
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA  
SUBJECT: SWC, BARCLAY CUP, EVENTS, WOOD BAT, MLB DRAFT, AUSSIES ABROAD, CHANGE OUR GAME, CLUB NEWS, BV TV, ABL, SALESIAN, HONOUR ROLLS, LIFEBLOOD

## Diamond Valley and Latrobe Valley Win Under 16 State Winter Championships

The 2024 Under 16 State Winter Championships were hosted by Latrobe Valley Baseball Association at Morwell Cougars and Traralgon Red Sox Baseball Clubs.

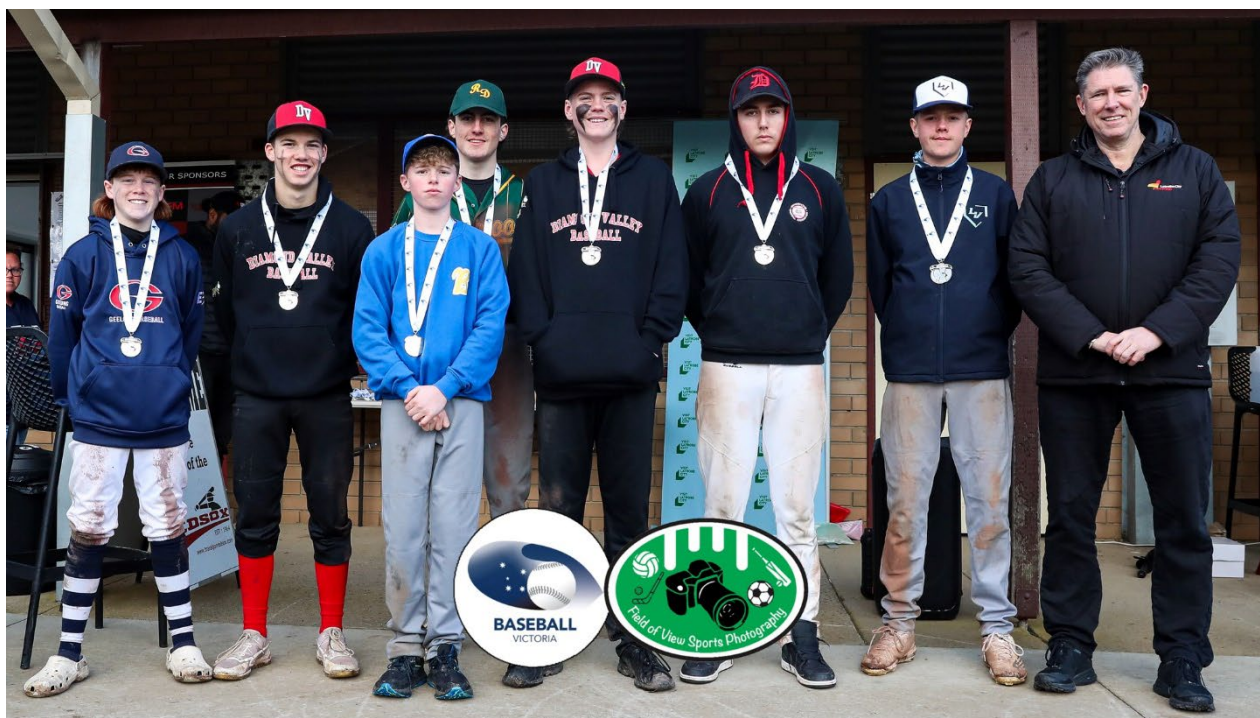
Congratulations to U16 State Winter Champions Diamond Valley (Division 1) and Latrobe Valley (Division 2)!

Diamond Valley defeated Ringwood 5-2 in the Div 1 grand final and Latrobe Valley won 12-7 over Diamond Valley in the Div 2 grand final.

Well done to MVPs: Kade Henry (Dandenong), Hunter Mudford (City West), Angus Sagers (Ringwood), Jack Northfield (Geelong), Ethan Kent (Diamond Valley Div 1), Makayla Poole (North East), Alex Smith (Latrobe Valley), Chase Messinger (Diamond Valley Div 2), and Fletcher Cain (Bendigo).

Thank you to all volunteers and supporters for an amazing weekend!

Check out Field of View Sports Photography images [HERE](#) and read Sunday GameChanger recaps [HERE](#).



2024 U16 SWC Most Valuable Players

## 2024 State Winter Championships to Wrap Up with Under 12 Tournament in Werribee

The Under 12 State Winter Championships will return to Werribee Giants Baseball Club this weekend, wrapping up the successful 2024 winter tournament season in style.

Running from 20-21 July, the event will feature two divisions at Presidents Park. City West, Dandenong, Diamond Valley, Geelong, and Ringwood are in Division 1 while Bendigo, Diamond Valley, Latrobe Valley, and North Eastern are competing in Division 2.

“It’s been a fantastic run for our 2024 State Winter Championships, and we look forward to finishing the season on a high with an action-packed weekend of U12 baseball,” BV Tournament Officer Tony McPherson said. “Thank you to Werribee Giants Baseball Club for once again stepping up to the plate to host this beloved tradition, and good luck to all the players and teams!”

There will be 12 games on Saturday to kick things off before finalists are decided on Sunday.

“Werribee Giants Baseball Club is excited to welcome U12 players and teams from across Victoria to our great facilities for an awesome weekend of on-field fun,” Club President David Bishop-Worn said. “Thank you to Baseball Victoria and Wyndham City Council for this opportunity and the ongoing support, and of course all our wonderful volunteers who make these events possible.”

Baseball Victoria’s official photography partner [Field of View](#) will capture the action all weekend long. Check out all 2024 SWC photo galleries [HERE](#).

[Ausport Superstore’s](#) Hugo and Claire will be out on Saturday from 8:30am to 2:30pm offering great deals on baseball gear.

Stay tuned to [BV Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) for updates from the tournament and follow along on GameChanger: [Under 12 Division 1](#) and [Under 12 Division 2](#).



*2023 Under 12 State Winter Championships*



## **2024 Barclay Cup Tryout Registration**

Baseball Victoria is pleased to announce the opening of tryout registrations for the 2024 Barclay Cup program. This year's program will include the newly revamped Prospects program, now specifically aimed at youth women aged 13 to 16.

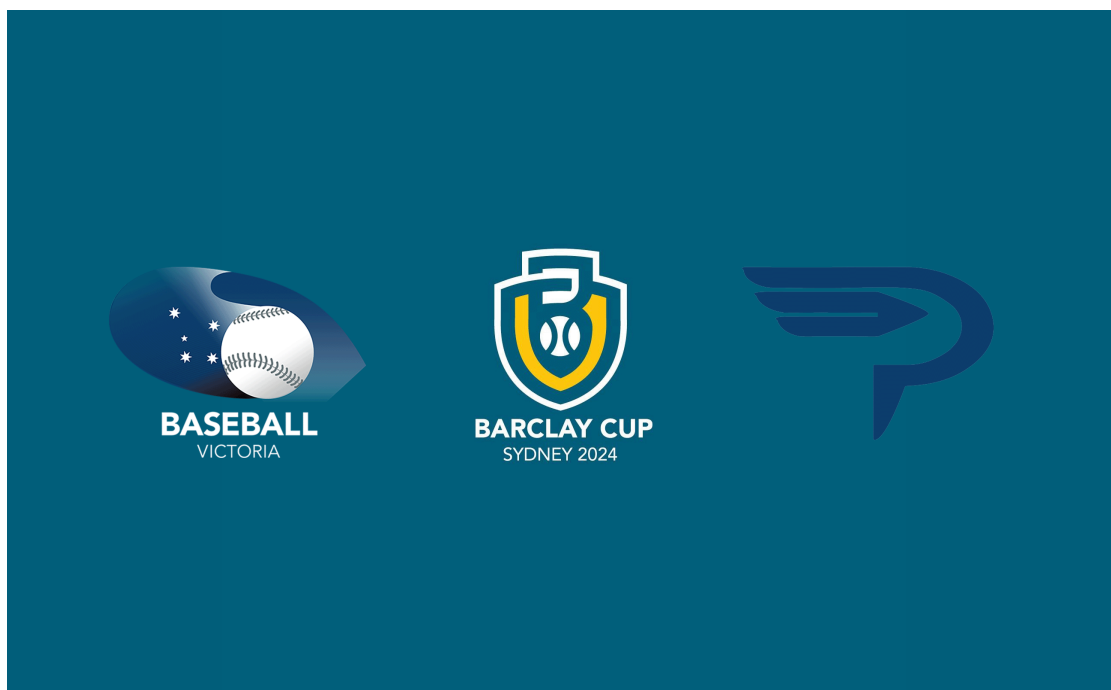
Previously, the BV Youth Women's Prospects program catered to players aged 16-21. With this revamp, it will exclusively be available for female players selected to participate in the Barclay Cup teams, forming the core of their training in preparation for the tournament.

The Barclay Cup/Youth Women's Prospects Development program goes beyond the existing club programs, offering participants the chance to further develop their core skills. The program will run over eight weeks under the leadership of Samantha Hamilton, Victorian Women's Head Coach and Australian Women's Assistant Coach.

"We're thrilled to announce the Barclay Cup/Youth Women's Prospects. Our main objective is to provide young female athletes with more opportunities to sharpen their skills," Hamilton said. "We are focused on reinforcing key aspects of their game and preparing them to compete at the next level."

"The potential within Victoria's emerging baseball talent is incredibly promising, and we're excited to be a part of their ongoing path to growth and achievement, both within the game and beyond. We're also committed to upskilling coaches within the Baseball Victoria Coaching Panel, ensuring a holistic approach to player development."

Click [HERE](#) to read more about the program and register for this exciting opportunity.



## **Baseball Victoria Calendar of Programs & Events**

We are enjoying a busy month of baseball with Prospects/Select and State Winter Championships. View our events calendar [HERE](#) and [follow Field of View Sports Photography](#) for photos. Make sure to check out the new [BV Pipeline Instagram](#) for a behind-the-scenes look at our programs, too!

## **Victorians Represent at 2024 Perfect Game 14U Wood Bat Tournament in USA**

Baseball Australia entered two teams in the 2024 Perfect Game World Wood Bat Association Championships in Hoover, Alabama.

It's a tournament for some of the best players aged 14 & Under in the United States, and ten Victorian players got to take part.

The Mighty Termites team, made up of players from Victoria and South Australia, played at America's oldest ballpark, the historic Rickwood Field, this week and have been making amazing memories on their trip. Check out the [tournament hub](#) for updates and follow along on [Instagram](#).



Photo: [Stan/baseball.com.au](#)

### **Travis Bazzana Makes History, Selected First Overall in MLB Draft by Cleveland Guardians**

It's been a huge week for Australian baseball, with Sydney's Travis Bazzana making history as the first Aussie to be selected as the #1 pick in a Major League Baseball Draft. The Cleveland Guardians used their top selection to select the Australian baseball player, making him the first Aussie to be selected in the first round of an MLB Draft. He's also the first second baseman to be selected first in a draft.

The previous highest Aussie selected was Victorian Josh Spence, who was drafted in the third round of the 2009 MLB Draft.

Travis will now sign a contract of his own and report to a team in Cleveland's minor leagues for the rest of the season. If he performs at his minor league level, he could earn a call-up.

"It means a lot. It is hard to put into words but it means everything. I'm just stoked and I'm really happy to be with the people I'm with right now," Bazzana said during an interview with the MLB Network.

"I see a lot of opportunities to make an impact on a lot of baseball players and people back home and hopefully change the narrative for baseball. But just giving belief to players back home that they can do great things in the US and pursue a Major League dream and hopefully this is a step towards that."

Congratulations to Travis and well done on inspiring the next generation of Aussie baseballers!

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

### **Aussies Abroad: 10 Victorians Playing Pro Ball in USA**

There are 32 Aussies under pro contracts in the North American system, including 10 Victorians.

Click [HERE](#) to read the latest updates on Jarryd Dale, Darcy Longstaff, Nikau Pouaka-Gregg, Blake Townsend, Jarrod Belbin, Declan Speirs, Jayden Kim, Liam Spence, Billy Parsons, and Lewis Thorpe.

## **2024-25 Change Our Game Professional Development Scholarships Program**

The Office for Women in Sport and Recreation is excited to share that the 2024-25 Change Our Game Professional Development Scholarships Program is now open for applications.

Designed to place women in the best position to obtain and thrive in leadership roles, the program supports women to access professional development opportunities to strengthen specialist skills necessary to their roles in the sport and active recreation sector.

The Community Leaders Stream is for women volunteering or working within community sport and active recreation clubs or organisations to develop as community leaders. Applications close at 5pm AEST on Monday 26th August, 2024. Click [HERE](#) to learn more about all six streams on offer and the program guidelines.

### **Club News: Ormond Glenhuntly Assistant Coaching Opportunity**

Ormond Glenhuntly Baseball Club is seeking expressions of interest for a playing coach to assist alongside head coach Geoff MacDonald in the 2024/25 summer season. Coming off a grand final loss in State League last season, the club is putting the appropriate resources in to go one better next year.

Their ideal playing coach has an emphasis on development, an effective training program, and strong leadership skills on game day. Please email [sam@jimsbuildinginspections.com.au](mailto:sam@jimsbuildinginspections.com.au) to learn more.

### **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](#).

### **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.





## 2024/25 ABL Season

The 2024/25 Australian Baseball League Season Schedule has been released with opening games set for Friday 15 November. Check out the full schedule [HERE](#) and order tickets for Aces games at Melbourne Ballpark [HERE](#).

The poster features three Melbourne Aces players in their white home uniforms with blue and red accents, standing with arms crossed. Above them is the Aces logo with 'MELBOURNE' and 'ACES' text. The main title '24/25 HOME SCHEDULE' is in large white letters on a dark blue background. Below the players, five round icons are displayed: Round 1 (Tiger logo, 15th-18th Nov), Round 4 (Baseball logo, 5th-8th Dec), Round 7 (Blue and yellow logo, 26th-29th Dec), Round 9 (Cartoon character logo, 9th-12th Jan), and Round 10 (AA logo, 16th-19th Jan). At the bottom, the 'FLY ACES' logo is shown with the tagline 'WITH THE' and a small plane icon. The text 'GET YOUR TICKETS NOW | MELBOURNEACES.COM.AU' is at the very bottom.

**24/25 HOME SCHEDULE**

**ROUND 1**  
15th - 18th Nov

**ROUND 4**  
5th - 8th Dec

**ROUND 7**  
26th - 29th Dec

**ROUND 9**  
9th - 12th Jan

**ROUND 10**  
16th - 19th Jan

**FLY ACES**  
\* WITH THE

**GET YOUR TICKETS NOW | MELBOURNEACES.COM.AU**

## 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.

## 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

