

INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS
DATE: 24 JANUARY 2024
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA
SUBJECT: AWC, AYC, ROBINSON SMITH, BAYSIDE, VSBL, CAMPS, BELLES, SWC, SSV, AWARDS, JARRYD DALE, UMPIRES, TEAM AUS, SPORTSLINK, CLUB NEWS, BV TV, SALESIAN, HONOUR ROLLS, LIFEBLOOD

2025 Victorian Women's & Youth Women's State Teams Announced

Baseball Victoria is excited to announce the Victorian Women's and Youth Women's State Teams ahead of the 2025 Australian Championships, which will return to Melbourne Ballpark this April.

The AWC will run from 13-19 April and the AYWC (U16) will run from 15-19 April.

"We look forward to another amazing week of women's baseball at Melbourne Ballpark, with our women's side chasing back-to-back championships and our youth women ready to shine," BV CEO Chet Gray said. "Well done to all and best of luck training leading up to the tournaments."

Teams were presented with their caps last Friday night at Melbourne Ballpark for the Aces game. Congratulations to our state team representatives! Stay tuned for updates as we get closer to nationals.

VICTORIAN WOMEN'S STATE TEAM ANNOUCEMENT



ALLIE BEBBERE

LILIAN BELL-TANNER

RUBY BENNE

JASMINE BENTLEY

JESS BROWN

BELINDA CANNINGTON

RUBY DALE

PAULA DOHERTY

KIRA JANSEN

NARUMI KAMETANI

ABBEY KELLY

EDEN NEAVE

MACKENZIE PRENTICE-EVANS

KENDRA RUTGERS

LILLY SIMPSON

SAEKO SUZUKI

COACHES

HEAD COACH - SAMANTHA HAMILTON

ASSISTANT COACH - JARRYD ROGERS

PITCHING COACH - STEPHEN BLACK

EO - URSULA HOWARD

TOURNAMENT

MELBOURNE BALLPARK

13-19 APRIL 2025



VICTORIAN YOUTH WOMEN'S STATE TEAM ANNOUNCEMENT



TIARE AKARURU
PAIGE ANDERS
ALEXANDRA EGAN
MADDY HAYNES
ALYSSA JAMIESON
CHARLOTTE JANSEN
MOLLY LEWIS
AYLA MCCALLUM
TABITHA PITT
ANDIE TORCASIO
VIVIEN TURNER
HANNAH WILSON-POWELL
ISABELLE ZURAWEL
PAIQUIN ROBERTSON

COACHES

HEAD COACH - RICHARD ELTON
ASSISTANT COACH - DANIEL BEBBERE
PITCHING COACH - ERIN COLLIS
EO - CARLA JAMIESON

TOURNAMENT

MELBOURNE BALLPARK
15-19 APRIL 2025



Victorian Award Winners at 2025 Australian Youth Championships

We are so proud of all the Victorians who represented on the national stage at the 2025 Australian Youth Championships, and a special shoutout to our AYC Award Winners! Cooper Busch won the U16 Golden Bat after going 14-for-27 (.529) with five extra-base hits and 10 runs batted in.

Cooper Bishop-Worn won the Golden Glove Award for his excellent performance at shortstop and pitcher. He tallied 12 assists in a great, versatile effort from this athletic young man.

Congrats to both of our awesome Coopers!

Also, well done to Andrew Land on the CARVE Performance Play of the Tournament for the Under 18 National Championships. His clutch late-innings double play earned him a pair of CARVE Eyewear performance sunglasses for his efforts.

2024/25 VSBL Season

Summer League is heating up! Check out fixtures, results, and ladders [HERE](#) and follow the [VSBL Facebook page](#) for the latest updates.

A very special shoutout to our BV Diamond Partners [Ausport](#) and [Aces Sporting Club](#) for their ongoing support of [VSBL Players of the Week](#) – remember you can nominate players at the following links:

- [VSBL Senior 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](#)

17-Year-Old Victorian Pitcher Robinson Smith Signs With Pittsburgh Pirates

In case you missed it, [17-year-old Victorian pitcher Robinson Smith](#) has become the latest Australian to sign professional after inking a six-year deal with the Pittsburgh Pirates.

With family and friends at Sandringham Royals Baseball Club, Robinson unveiled his Pittsburgh Pirates uniform on the very first day of the International Signing Window.

“Signing professionally is something I have dreamt about for as long as I can remember,” Smith said. “The Pirates are the perfect fit and offer me the opportunity to develop as a player and pitcher, supporting my journey to my big-league goal.”

Read more on his baseball journey [HERE](#).



Robinson Smith joined by BV Performance Pathway coaches at his MLB signing at Sandringham Baseball Club.

Baseball Victoria 2025 Calendar of Events

2025 is off to a great start, and there's lots more [coming up throughout January to April](#). Check out our full [Calendar of Events](#) and stay tuned as we hit the ground running this year.

Sandringham and Moorabbin Battle It Out in the 3rd Annual Bayside Shield

Saturday 18 January saw the third instalment of the annual Bayside Shield between Sandringham and local rivals Moorabbin.

The Shield was kindly donated by local MLA Brad Roswell, whose electorate is home to both clubs. The day saw Sandringham prevail 6-1, becoming the first club to both host and win the game as previous years had seen the home team lose. The Royals are now the first to retain the Shield.

Highlights of the game included Josh Meyer's 3-for-4 performance and Moorabbin's two double plays on defense.

The club used the day to host their inaugural Past Players & Life Members Day, which helped swell the crowd.

"It was fantastic to see so many past players and life members to celebrate our club's rich history," Sandringham President Nick Stillwell said. "It is because of these people that the club is in the position it is today."

January 2025 School Holiday Camps

Thank you to everyone who joined us for BV School Holiday Camps over the past two weeks! Learn more via bvpipeline.com.au.



Belles Baseball Tryouts

The Belles tryout session will be held at Deep Creek Reserve (Doncaster Baseball Club) on Saturday 1 February from 9-11am. The coaches are Lili Cavanagh and Kira Kumamoto. The all-girls Belles team will have the opportunity to participate in April's State Championships and the 2025 Australian Little League Girls Division Championships in July.

Belles Baseball is open to girls League Ages 9 to 12 Years (age cutoff is 31 August). Any participants who wish to try out and haven't registered yet are welcome to attend the trial.

Save The Date: 2025 State Winter Championships

Mark your calendars for the 2025 State Winter Championships! The junior age groups have been altered to better reflect the association age groups and charter program.

- Senior, Senior Women's, and Girls Invitational: 7-9 June (Geelong)
- Under 15s: 5-6 July (Latrobe Valley)
- 17 and Under: 12-13 July (Bendigo)
- Under 13s: 19-20 July (North East)

We are excited for another awesome winter of baseball!

School Sport Victoria Team Vic Baseball Trials

School Sport Victoria has opened registration for [Team Vic Baseball 18 Years and Under](#). The School Sport Australia (SSA) 18 Years & Under Baseball Championships will be held in Perth, WA from 27 April – 3 May 2025. Click [HERE](#) to learn more and register.

Team VIC 2025

REGISTRATIONS
NOW OPEN

BASEBALL
18 Years & Under
MIXED

CLOSING 12 FEB 2025

SCHOOL SPORT VICTORIA™

SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA™

BV History & Recognition Working Group: Service Award Nominations

Baseball in Victoria is built on the remarkable service of volunteers who dedicate countless hours to supporting and improving our grassroots sport. Baseball Victoria is committed to celebrating our amazing community and the contributions of hardworking volunteers at clubs and programs across the state.

Significant and lasting contributors to baseball in Victoria will be recognised at the BV Annual General Meeting each year. Nominations are now open for Outstanding Contribution and Service to Baseball Awards.

2024 baseball participants and affiliated clubs of Baseball Victoria are invited to nominate individuals for these awards via these links: [Outstanding Contribution](#) and [Service to Baseball Awards](#). Nominations close Thursday 20 February 2025.

2024 Victorian Sport Awards - Nominations Now Open

Nominations are now open for the [2024 Victorian Sport Awards](#).

The most prestigious night for our state's sport and active recreation community, the VSAs recognise and celebrate those who made an outstanding contribution to Victorian sport during 2024 by honouring the grassroots heroes who excelled at a community level, high-performance athletes who shone at a national and international level and everyone in between.

With 18 awards presented, individual and team athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, administrators, media personnel and the initiatives that ensure Victorians remain active will all be recognised. The nomination process is open to all members of the public.

[Nominations can be submitted](#) via the Vicsport website through Friday 14 February 2025. We hope to see our wonderful baseball community recognised!

Jarryd Dale Receives Invite to Orix Buffaloes Spring Training in Japan

After a stellar Australian Baseball League season, Melbourne infielder Jarryd Dale has an opportunity in Japan.

In the first week of February, Dale will fly to Japan on a Spring Training invite with NPB's Orix Buffaloes. The 24-year-old Team Australia shortstop had a career-best year in the ABL.

He led the league with a .381 average and led all shortstops in fielding percentage. Dale was named a finalist for the Helms Award, given to the ABL's most valuable players.

Read the full story [HERE](#).

2025 Event Umpire Expressions of Interest

Umpire expressions of interest are open for the [2025 Little League State Championships](#) and upcoming [Baseball Australia events](#), including Women's and Little League Nationals from April to July.

Please click [HERE](#) to view a full list of opportunities and register your interest.

Team Australia to Play Three-Game Exhibition Series vs Hanwha Eagles in Melbourne

[Team Australia](#) will play at home once again. Hosted by the Melbourne Aces and the Victorian Government, Team Australia will play in a three-game series, showcasing a truly "International" Baseball Showdown, vs the Hanhwa Eagles.

Proudly supported by the Victorian Government through the Significant Sporting Events Program, the Eagles will train at Melbourne Ballpark from 25 January to 19 February 2025, culminating with the International Baseball Showdown series, played over three days from 14-16 February. Click [HERE](#) to learn more and secure your tickets.

SportsLink Travel - World Masters Games Taiwan 2025

As the preferred travel and tour partner of Baseball Victoria, SportsLink Travel has put together a fantastic opportunity to join their team traveling to the World Masters Games in Taiwan this May. Over 25 different sports will be competing, and you can register your interest as an individual or a team. The initial uptake of participants has been great, and this is a final opportunity to be involved if you register your interest by Monday 3rd February.

Register today via the [Masters Registration Form](#) and travel to Taiwan with SportsLink Ambassadors Eddie Ockenden (5 x Olympian & Paris Olympic Flag Bearer), Brooke Penfold (3 x Olympian) and Shane Tonkin (1996 Olympian), along with a host of other participants from a number of different sports.

WORLD MASTERS GAMES

Taipei City 17 - 30 MAY 2025






MASTERS SPORTS

- Aquatics
- Badminton
- Canoe/Kayak
- Football - Futsal
- Hockey
- Rowing
- Softball
- Table Tennis
- Triathlon
- Archery
- Baseball
- Cycling
- Golf
- Judo
- Rugby
- Squash
- Taekwondo
- Volleyball
- Athletics
- Basketball
- Fencing
- Handball
- Karate
- Shooting
- Surfing
- Tennis
- Weightlifting

SportsLink Ambassador

Eddie Ockenden

- 2024 Paris Olympics Flag Bearer
- 5 time Olympian

SportsLink Ambassador

Brooke Penfold

- 3 Time Olympian
- Softball Hall of Fame

SportsLink Ambassador

Shane Tonkin

- 1996 Olympian
- Taiwan Professional League

SportsLink Packages

- 7 Days from - \$2,795 single / \$1,995pp twin/double
- 14 Days from - \$4,595 single / \$2,995pp twin/double
- 4.5* Accommodation
- Transfers
- Merchandise Pack
- Exclusive Inclusions
- 24hr Assistance
- Ground Support
- Travel with SportsLink Ambassadors

Additional Options

- Flights
- Pre/Post extensions
- Travel Insurance
- Sightseeing Options

Click Here
To Register

Registrations Close 3 February



Club News: BV Club Assist Resources for Volunteers

As the summer season returns and winter clubs get ready for 2025, please check out the recently-updated [BV Club Assist](#), an online suite of club resources designed to help volunteers, support members, and enhance club operations and experiences.

There are three main sections: [Running a Club](#), [Competition](#), and [Growing a Club](#), and this comprehensive suite of resources (policies, templates, how-to guides, etc.) will be expanded as time goes on.

Head to www.baseballvictoria.com.au/bv-club-assist to get started.



Club News: 2025 Baseball Victoria Winter Development Grants Now Open

Baseball Victoria's 2025 Winter Development Grant Applications are now open. The BV Development Grants Program will fund baseball development activities aimed at driving junior and female participation and growth within the sport.

These activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Female participation programs
- Access for All Abilities (AAA) programs
- Come and try days
- Junior gala events
- Club-driven school events
- Baseball equipment (which directly increases junior or female participation)
- 2-Ball Friday Night Competition
- Training, education and development for umpires, scorers, coaches, child safety and wellbeing officers

Winter clubs and associations are eligible to apply - you can see the [Program Guidelines](#) for more details, including eligibility and how to apply. Please note [applications](#) close 31 January 2025.

Club NEWS: SRV Local Sports Infrastructure Fund

Offered by **Sport and Recreation Victoria**, the Local Sports Infrastructure Fund provides **up to \$300,000** in funding to community sporting clubs and organisations to support infrastructure development across numerous funding streams. Applications close 17 February – learn more [HERE](#).

Club News: Department of Social Services Volunteer Grants

The federal Department of Social Services has an open grant opportunity to support club volunteers, valued at up to \$5,000. Grant guidelines are available [HERE](#).

Funds can be used for a wide range of purposes, including insurance premiums, coaching and umpiring courses, first aid equipment, come-and-try days, software, and laptops – the focus is on encouraging and supporting volunteering.

The initial action is for club representatives to [contact their local Federal MP](#) to request consideration. [Please see this template to get started](#).

Club News: ASC 2025 Coaching & Officiating Conference

The Australian Sports Commission (ASC) will host the 2025 Coaching and Officiating Conference from 18-20 March at the iconic GMHBA Stadium in Geelong. This year's theme is 'Connection', highlighting how modern coaching and officiating methods are changing the way we experience sports, shape our environments and develop our organisations. Click [HERE](#) to learn more and to register.

Club News: Dandenong Angels Seek Club Coach

Dandenong Angels Baseball Club is seeking expressions of interest for the position of club coach for the 2025 DBA winter season and beyond. The successful applicant, who will be either a playing or non-playing coach, will have the leadership, drive and communication skills required to realise their shared vision for on-field success.

Read more [HERE](#).

Club News: Greenhills Montmorency Baseball Club to Host Friday Night Tee-Ball

Monty Baseball Club's T-Ball Program will return for kids ages 5-8 from Friday 21 February to 11 April. This is a great chance for kids to dive into the exciting world of baseball, learn new skills, and have an absolute blast! Register your interest [HERE](#).

Club News: Sale Baseball Club to Host Junior Social Baseball Competition Ahead of Winter Season

Sale Baseball Club is excited to host a Junior Social Baseball Competition open to everyone interested in trying out this fantastic sport! The six-week program will run every Wednesday from 5 February to 12 March. Visit the [club's Facebook page](#) for more details.

Club News: Watsonia Baseball Club Junior Coordinator and Senior Coach EOI

Watsonia Baseball Club is seeking expressions of interest for a junior coordinator. The successful candidate will be passionate about growing the sport of baseball at a junior level while supporting and developing current players. Read more [HERE](#).

The club is also seeking expressions of interest for a senior coach. Supported by current club coach Jarryd Rogers and pitching coach Luke Abels, the successful candidate will manage the A3 and A4 playing group. They can be either playing or non-playing and have a particular focus on juniors making the transition to senior baseball and working cohesively with experienced players. Read more [HERE](#).

Club News: Dealing With The Moment – Anti-Racism in Community Sport

Sport Australia's free [Anti-Racism – Dealing With The Moment](#) course helps community coaches, umpires, participants and volunteers to deal with racism in the moment it occurs.

Across four modules and approximately one hour, users will learn about racism in community sport, practical and tangible actions to prevent racism, when to intervene and the importance of acting in the moment as well as the importance of listening to and respecting the victim.

Click [HERE](#) to register.

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 Victoria and Salesian College Sports Academy Team Up

Baseball Victoria is pleased to partner with Salesian College Sports Academy in Chadstone, which plans to introduce a baseball program in 2026, subject to student enrolments.

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

Stay on top of your baseball training with [BV TV](#) videos, including [Ramp Up to Play](#) and [Top Throwing Drills](#). Follow us on [Instagram](#) and [TikTok](#) for more fun drills and behind the scenes.

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

We are proud to be part of the Australian Red Cross Lifeblood program, helping to save lives 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

Jessica Alvaro – 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 – Event Support Officer

Brooke Penfold – Technical Officer

Tony McPherson – Tournament Officer

Daniel Chircop – Pathways/MSA Coach

Samantha Hamilton – Performance Pathway Coach

Ethan Epifanio – Development Officer



**SALESIAN
COLLEGE**
CHADSTONE EST. 1957

