

# INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS

DATE: 28 MARCH 2025 FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA

SUBJECT: HALL OF FAME, VSBL, AWC, SALESIAN, PIPELINE LESSONS, EVENTS,

COLLEGE, CLUB NEWS, HONOUR ROLLS, LIFEBLOOD, BV TV

#### 2025 Baseball Victoria Hall of Fame Presentation Evening

Baseball Victoria is excited to announce our first-ever Hall of Fame Evening on Wednesday 21 May from 6-9pm at Lakeside Stadium, Albert Park.

"The Inaugural Baseball Victoria Hall of Fame Presentation will recognise outstanding on-field performances and celebrate Victorian baseball trailblazers who have achieved impressive, inspiring success at the state, national, and international level," BV CEO Chet Gray said.

"Our 2025 inductees have made amazing contributions to baseball in Victoria over the years and are very deserving of such recognition. We invite our Victorian baseball community to join us for a fantastic night celebrating the past and sharing excitement in the future."

Click HERE to get your tickets.



#### 2024/25 VSBL Grand Finals & Award Winners

In case you missed it, <u>Sunshine Eagles</u> won the Premier League 1 Grand Final with <u>Williamstown Wolves</u> finishing runner-up. Waverley went back-to-back in Premier League 1 Reserves and Cheltenham won Premier League 2 Firsts and Reserves. Congrats to all!

A special congratulations to all our VSBL Award Winners on their outstanding achievements this summer. From MVPs to Individual Award Winners, we hope everyone has enjoyed celebrating at club presentation nights and can feel proud of such great performances this season. Follow along on the <u>Baseball Victoria</u> and <u>VSBL Facebook</u> pages to catch up on the past few weeks of VSBL highlights!

Thank you to all the players, coaches, umpires, scorers, groundskeepers, volunteers, and supporters who make summer baseball a big success. Also, thank you to our BV Diamond Partners <u>Ausport</u> and <u>Aces</u> <u>Sporting Club</u> for their season-long support of <u>VSBL Players of the Week</u>.



# AWARD WINNERS PITCHING & BATTING

PREMIER LEAGUE 1 HARRY DOUGLAS MEMORIAL TROPHY JOSEPH CUOMO - WAVERLEY (0.959 ERA)

PREMIER LEAGUE 1 BATTING AVERAGE AWARD DECLAN SPEIRS - ESSENDON (0.472 BA)

PREMIER LEAGUE 2 PITCHING AWARD RUSTY HUBER - PORT MELBOURNE (0.738 ERA)

PREMIER LEAGUE 2 BATTING AVERAGE AWARD BRANDON STENHOUSE - CHELTENHAM (.516 BA)

WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE PITCHING AWARD BRONWYN GELL - SPRINGVALE (2.11 ERA)

WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE BATTING AVERAGE AWARD KAYLA ADAMS - ESSENDON (.564 BA)

# All-Female Umpiring Panel Announced for 2025 AWC & AYWC

In a historic first, the 2025 Australian Women's and Youth Women's Championships will feature an all-female panel. Congratulations to our very own Victorian umpires Janine Thompson and Jenelle Stafilis on their appointments.

From 13-19 April at Melbourne Ballpark, six open women's teams (16+) and five youth women's sides (U16) from across the country will compete for the title of national champions.

#### Check out these links for all the details:

- Open Women's Schedule (Sunday 13 April Saturday 19 April)
- Youth Women's Schedule (Tuesday 15 April Saturday 19 April)
- <u>Tournament Format/Info</u>
- Baseball.com.au Event Hub
- Australian Baseball Umpires Announcement



Janine Thompson and Jenelle Stafilis

# "Girls Are Players Too" Nationals Fundraising Campaign

As a reminder, <u>Women's Baseball The Inside Pitch (WBIP)</u> is running a fundraiser to support Aussie female baseballers! Victoria Women and Youth Women are in the top three for most funds raised so far – let's keep it up!

"Girls Are Players Too" is a special fundraising initiative helping to raise funds to support teams heading to the <u>2025 Australian Women's and Youth Women's Championships</u> at Melbourne Ballpark in April.

WBIP has launched exclusive <u>"Girls Are Players Too" t-shirts</u>, available in all five team colours with the GRP2 logo on the back and a special IP logo on the front just for nationals.

\$5 from the sale of each "Girls Are Players Too" t-shirt will be contributed directly to the teams. Shirts are available to players, coaches, team supporters, families, friends, and more. All you have to do is in your cart before you checkout, select which state and which team - Elite or Youth - you'd like the \$5 to go to!

The team with the most funds raised by 11 April will also receive a special prize pack including a hat, t-shirt, bag, shoe charm, and sticker pack. The funds raised for each team, and the winning team prize pack, will be presented in person by WBIP's own Amy McCann during the championships.

For those headed to the tournament, select the "Nationals 2025 - Melbourne Ballpark" pickup option which means you can collect your order in person and save on shipping costs. Otherwise, you can have it shipped to you earlier.

The "Girls Are Players Too" Fundraiser is accompanied by an exciting new <u>national podcast series</u>, hosted by Emeralds alumni Amy McCann, Tahnee Lovering, and Amy Cannington.

Every week in a dedicated episode profiling each state team, the trio bring their expert insights and knowledge to the mic to dissect each roster, interview some of Australia's best players, throw in a little nationals history, and more. The Victorian episode featuring Belinda Cannington and Allie Bebbere is now live – listen HERE.

Head to www.womensbaseball.me for details and grab your "Girls Are Players Too" t-shirts today!



#### Baseball Victoria and Salesian College Sports Academy Team Up, Info Session This Monday

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 <u>Salesian College Sports Academy</u> and click <u>HERE</u> to book a tour.

Families interested in enrolling or who have already done so are encouraged to contact Sports Academy Coordinator Stephen Sellwood at <a href="mailto:ssellwood@salesian.vic.edu.au">ssellwood@salesian.vic.edu.au</a> to ensure they also complete a Sports Academy application.

There will be a Salesian Sports Academy information evening on Monday 31 March where you can learn more. Click <u>HERE</u> to register.

#### **BV Pipeline Lessons – April School Holidays**



#### **Baseball Victoria 2025 Calendar of Events**

2025 is off to a busy start, and there's <u>lots more coming up over the next few months</u>. Check out our full <u>Calendar of Events</u> and stay tuned for all the awesome baseball activities planned for this year.

#### Aussies in the US College Baseball System: Mid-March 2025 Update

The 2025 American college baseball season is in full swing. Head to <u>baseball.com.au</u> to get the latest updates on Victorian college players and all the Aussies representing overseas.

This includes Conor Myles, Keenan Spence, Jarryd Wood, Connor Hickey, Nick Bertucci, Charlie Pierson, Bronson Neave, Josh Ashen, and Jaycob Pascuzzi.

#### **Club News: BV Codes of Conduct & Behaviour Expectations**

As a reminder to all clubs and members, Baseball Victoria membership requires you to adhere to BV Codes of Conduct regarding respectful behaviour. It's paramount that all players, coaches, officials, volunteers, spectators and clubs follow these expectations to ensure safe and enjoyable experiences for all.

Please review the <u>Codes of Conduct on our website</u> and contact the BV Office with any questions.

#### Club News: 2025 Winter Registration Now Open

Baseball Victoria registration is now open for the 2025 winter season. Please find your <u>club link</u> and complete your registration, whether you will be playing, coaching, umpiring, scoring, or volunteering.

We look forward to another awesome winter season all around Victoria!

# **Club News: BV Club Assist Resou**rces for Volunteers

As winter clubs get ready for 2025, please check out the recently updated <u>BV</u> <u>Club Assist</u>, 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 <u>www.baseballvictoria.com.au/bv-club-assist</u> to get started.



#### Club News: Come and Try Winter Baseball With Pakenham Pumas

Pakenham Pumas Baseball Club is holding another come and try session for the winter season on Sunday 6 April. Check it out and follow the club on Facebook for more details.



# Club News: Sandringham Royals Women's Baseball Coach Expressions of Interest

Sandringham Baseball Club is looking for an experienced club coach to lead the Royals Women's Program in the 2025-26 season.

Please email secretary@sandybaseball.com.au to express your interest.



#### **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 <u>Working with Children Check</u> 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 <u>11 Child Safe Sport Modules</u>.

#### **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 <u>our website</u> for more info.

## <u>Australian Red Cross Lifeblood Teams Program</u>

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.

### **Baseball Training on BV TV**

Stay on top of your baseball training with <u>BV TV</u> videos, including <u>Ramp Up to Play</u> and <u>Top Throwing Drills</u>. Follow us on <u>Instagram</u> and <u>TikTok</u> for more fun drills and behind the scenes.



#### **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

Ethan Epifanio – Development Officer

Brooke Penfold - Technical Officer

**Tony McPherson** – Tournament Officer

**Daniel Chircop** – Pathways/MSA Coach

Samantha Hamilton – Performance Pathway Coach



































