

# INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS

DATE: 4 APRIL 2025

FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA

SUBJECT: STATE CHAMPS, HALL OF FAME, VSBL, FUTURES, VSA, AWC, RYAN

LANGWORTHY, TEAM AUS, SALESIAN, PIPELINE, EVENTS, COLLEGE,

CLUB NEWS, LIFEBLOOD, HONOUR ROLLS, BV TV

# 2025 Little League State Championships Kick Off This Week

Baseball Victoria's 2025 Little League State Championships get underway this week.

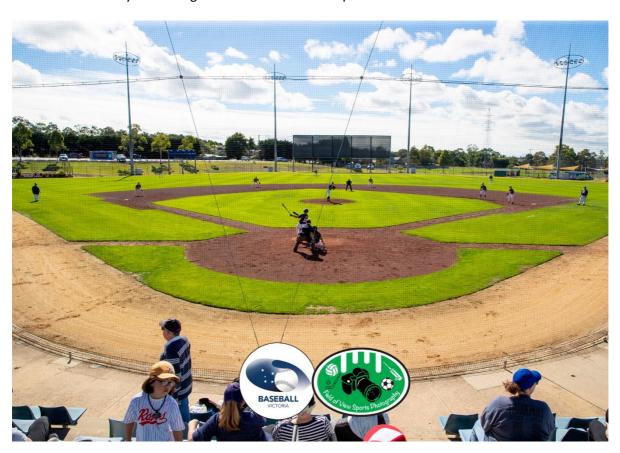
Junior and Senior League (SL80 and SL90) will be played at the Geelong Baseball Complex from Saturday 5 April to Monday 7 April.

Little League Intermediate (SL70), Major and Invitational (LL Minor) together with Little League Minor (Coach Pitch) will be held at Knox Baseball Club from Friday 11 April to Sunday 13 April.

Check out fixtures below and stay tuned for GameChanger live scoring.

- Junior and Senior League Draw
- Junior League GameChanger
- Senior League GameChanger
- <u>Little League Major and Intermediate Draw</u>
- Little League Minor and Development Draw

All the best to everyone hitting the field for State Champs!



#### 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 - Super Early Bird pricing is \$90pp and ends Monday 21 April.



# 2024/25 VSBL Club Championship Winners

We hope all players, coaches, teams, and clubs can feel proud of their growth and achievements over the year. We are excited to confirm the following Club Champions for the 2024/25 VSBL season:

- Premier League 1 Club Championship: Waverley Baseball Club
- Premier League 2 Club Championship: Bonbeach Baseball Club
- Women's Club Championship: Springvale Baseball Club

Congratulations on a fantastic summer of baseball! Good luck for those now moving into winter club mode. We will see you for the 2025/26 season before we know it!

# **2025 BV Performance Pathway Futures**

The BV Performance Pathway continues to go from strength to strength, with 96 players taking part in the 2025 Futures Program. There were six squads across three venues, enjoying eight weeks of fun and development, culminating in a two-day tournament with 24 games and hitting testing. Thanks to all our players and families for a great program!





Field of View Sports Photography

# **2024 Victorian Sport Awards Finalists Announced**

Vicsport has announced finalists for the 18 categories at the 2024 Victorian Sport Awards (VSAs), an event that recognises and celebrates the achievements of our home-grown sporting heroes at both a grassroots and high-performance level. A record 330 nominations were received from the Victorian sporting community, honouring those who have made an exceptional contribution to sport and recreation in Victoria during the previous calendar year.

Thank you to everyone from our Victorian baseball community who submitted nominations. We are thrilled to share that our 2024 U18 Victorian Baseball Team is a finalist for the AED Authority Team of the Year. Read the full release on vicsport.com.au and stay tuned for the awards on Wednesday 14 May.

#### 2025 Australian Women's and Youth Women's Championships

It's almost time for women's nationals! The 2025 Australian Women's and Youth Women's Championships will run 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)
- Tournament Format/Info
- Baseball.com.au Event Hub
- Australian Baseball Umpires Announcement

Best of luck to our Victorians at their final training sessions leading up to the tournament!



Field of View Sports Photography

# "Girls Are Players Too" Nationals Fundraising Campaign

Have you got your "Girls Are Players Too" shirt? As a reminder, <u>Women's Baseball The Inside Pitch (WBIP)</u> is running a fundraiser to support Aussie female baseballers ahead of nationals, and Victoria Women and Youth Women are in the top three for most funds raised so far.

\$5 from the sale of each "Girls Are Players Too" t-shirt will be contributed directly to the teams competing at the 2025 Australian Women's and Youth Women's Championships.

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 who are profiling each state team. The Victorian episode featuring Belinda Cannington and Allie Bebbere is now live – listen <u>HERE</u>.

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

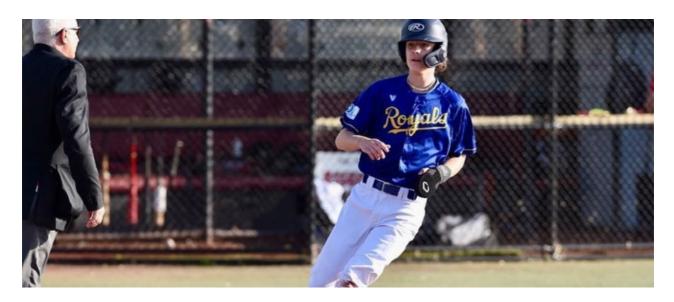


# Victoria's Ryan Langworthy to Attend College on a Golf & Baseball Scholarship

Victorian Ryan Langworthy is merging his love of baseball and golf into an academic opportunity in the United States. The utility player, BV Performance Pathway representative, and Victorian Under 16 State Team alum has accepted a scholarship to Division 1 Junior College (JUCO) at York County Community College in Maine.

"These opportunities have seen me competing with the best players of my age since I was young," Langworthy said. "A few people I feel have influenced me on my journey as a baseballer are my parents, my brother Mitch, coach Ben Laux, Damian Shanahan, Keli'i Zablan, Travis Blackley, Matt O'Neil, Andrew Riddell & Rick Williams," he says.

Congratulations, Ryan! You can read the full story **HERE**.



#### Team Australia Announces Coaching Staff for 2025 U18 World Cup

From September 5-14, the best Under 18 players will compete in Okinawa, Japan for the title of World Champion. Team Australia has announced the U18 World Cup Coaching Staff, with our very own Damian Shanahan named assistant coach. Read more on baseball.com.au.



#### 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 <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.

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

BV Pipeline Lessons are back these April Holidays! Players can fine-tune hitting and defence skills in a 3:1 ratio small group with PP staff ahead of the winter season. Register now via <a href="https://example.com.au">bvpipeline.com.au</a>.

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

We are off to a fantastic start this year, and there's <u>much more baseball action to come in 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.

#### <u>Aussies in the US College Baseball System: End of March 2025 Update</u>

There are over 100 Australians playing some level of college baseball in Australia. Head to <a href="mailto:baseball.com.au">baseball.com.au</a> to check out the latest updates on Victorians 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**

Thank you to everyone who has registered for the 2025 winter season. If you haven't already, 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 Resources 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: <u>Running a Club</u>, <u>Competition</u>, and <u>Growing a Club</u>, and this comprehensive suite of resources (policies, templates, how-to guides, etc.) will be expanded as time goes on.



# 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, starting at 9am for juniors and 11am for seniors and women. Check it out and follow the <u>club on Facebook</u> 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 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 <u>11 Child Safe Sport Modules</u>.

#### **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.



#### **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**

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



































