

INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS
DATE: 15 MAY 2025
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA
SUBJECT: VALE, WELLBEING, HALL OF FAME, ALL-GIRLS INVITATIONAL,
NATIONALS, EVENTS, COLLEGE, STUDY, SSV, UMPIRING,
SALESIAN, CLUB NEWS, HONOUR ROLLS, BV TV, LIFEBLOOD

Vale Adam Burton

Baseball Victoria is saddened to hear of the passing of Adam Burton, a beloved member of the Victorian baseball community.

Over the years, Adam played and coached at Waverley, Blackburn, Melbourne, Preston, and Watsonia Baseball Clubs. Adam was a talented baseballer, representing Australia in the 2000 Olympic Games, the Baseball World Cup, the Intercontinental Cup, and the World Youth Series.

Adam, who impressed as a Waverley junior, made the Reds inaugural roster in the 1990 Australian Baseball League as a 17-year-old and was soon signed a professional contract with the Baltimore Orioles. He also spent time in the Atlanta Braves system before returning home for an 11-year ABL career with Waverley, Brisbane, and Melbourne.

He continued playing and coaching in local summer and winter baseball, including leading Preston Pirates to a VSBL Division 2 Premiership as club coach in the 2017-18 season. He was also part of Watsonia's A Grade Grand Final in 2024.

Adam will always be remembered for his unwavering love of the game and infectious personality. He will be truly missed, and we send our deepest condolences to his family, friends, and fellow club members during this difficult time.



Baseball Victoria TMA Project Introduces Wellbeing and Safeguarding Leads

Baseball Victoria is excited to announce the next stage of a Together More Active Wellbeing & Safeguarding Project, supported through Victorian Government funding.

BV has partnered with Total Teams to present the Wellbeing and Safeguarding Project: Building Safe & Well Baseball Clubs.

Over the winter season, associations and clubs will be invited to participate in the program, which will run as four monthly sessions with a focus on applied learning and practical implementation. The program will be extended to summer clubs later in the year.

Participants will gain a deeper understanding of what wellbeing and safeguarding mean in community sport, and how everyone can play a role in creating safe, strong clubs. Read the full story [HERE](#).



Inductees Announced for 2025 Baseball Victoria Hall of Fame

Baseball Victoria is excited to present 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 inspiring success at the state, national, and international level,” BV CEO Chet Gray said. “We invite our Victorian baseball community to join us for a fantastic night celebrating the past and sharing excitement in the future.”

Our [inaugural Hall of Fame Class of 2025](#) includes the following inductees:

PLAYERS: Amy McCann, David Clarkson, Don Deeble*, Ernie George Bolton, Graeme Deany, Graeme Lloyd, John Hodges*, John Swanson, Matthew Sheldon-Collins, Ross Straw*, Samantha Hamilton, Simone Wearne

MANAGERS: Frank Laver*, Jon Deeble, Lenton ‘Lyn’ Straw*

PLAYER AND MANAGER: David Went, Phil Dale

ADMINISTRATORS: John O’Brien*, Les Flower, Michael O’Brien, Paul Collins*, Peter Dihm, Ron Clack*

UMPIRES: Barry Smith*, Dick Chapman*

SCORERS: Jennie Moloney

SERVICE TO BASEBALL: John Viney

MEDIA: Richard (Dick) Mason*

**deceased*

Click [HERE](#) for tickets.



BASEBALL VICTORIA HALL OF FAME EVENING



JOIN BASEBALL VICTORIA AT OUR VERY FIRST HALL OF FAME EVENING, WHERE WE WILL INDUCT A NUMBER OF WORTHY RECIPIENTS INTO THE BV HALL OF FAME.

WEDNESDAY 21 MAY 2025 6-9PM
LAKESIDE STADIUM AT STATE SPORTS CENTRE
31 – 33 AUGTHIE DRIVE
ALBERT PARK VICTORIA 3206

GET YOUR TICKETS VIA QR CODE



2025 All-Girls Winter Invitational Expressions of Interest – Closing Soon!

A friendly reminder to check out expressions of interest for the 2025 All-Girls Winter Invitational, which will be played over the long weekend from 7-9 June at Geelong Baseball Centre.

It will be an action-packed baseball weekend with the Girls Invitational running alongside the Senior and Senior Women's State Winter Championships. Girls aged 11-15 are encouraged to register for this exciting opportunity [HERE](#). Registration closes Friday 16 May.

2025 Australian Senior League Championship Heads to Geelong Baseball Centre

Best of luck to Rangers and Mets as they represent Victoria on the national stage next week at the 2025 Australian Senior League Championship in Geelong from 21-25 May. Check out the schedule release [HERE](#) and visit www.baseball.com.au/nationals for a list of qualified teams across all tournaments.

Athletics and Mariners Headed to Lismore for 2025 Australian Intermediate League Championship

Following Senior League, Intermediate League is next up on the nationals calendar. Athletics and Mariners are the Victorian representatives playing in the 2025 Australian Intermediate League Championship in Lismore, NSW from 28 May to 1 June. See the schedule [HERE](#).

Mets and Athletics Get Ready for 2025 Australian Junior League Championship

The 2025 Australian Junior League Championship will also run in Lismore from 28 May to 1 June. Mets and Athletics are representing Victoria, and we wish them all the best. The schedule is available [HERE](#).

[Baseball Victoria 2025 Calendar of Events](#)

It's been an exciting start to the year, and there's so much more baseball fun coming up with [events across May and June](#). Check out our full [Calendar of Events](#) and stay tuned for all the awesome baseball activities planned for this year.

[Jack Ratcliffe Announces Commitment to Iowa Central Community College](#)

A huge congratulations to Jack Ratcliffe on his commitment to Iowa Central Community College! Jack is a BV Performance Pathway athlete and Victorian State Team alum who has won AYC MVP honours twice. He was part of the U18s National Championship last year and represented Australia at the 2023 World Cup and the 2024 MLB Invitational. Read the full story [HERE](#).

[Deakin University Baseball Study](#)

The BV Performance Pathway team is pleased to assist Deakin University research in recruiting players for a baseball virtual reality study. This study compares pitch recognition, joint and body movement, ground reaction forces, and batting metrics in virtual reality vs. real-world hitting. Check out more information below and [get in touch](#) if you'd like to be part of the player group for upcoming testing.



BASEBALL VIRTUAL REALITY STUDY
Seeking Participants Now!!!

WHAT ARE WE STUDYING?
Deakin University is recruiting baseball players for a study comparing pitch recognition, joint and body movement, ground reaction forces, and batting metrics in virtual reality vs real-world hitting.

ARE YOU?

- Male
- > 18 years of age
- Play baseball currently
- Injury free in the past 3 months
- Right-handed

WHAT'S INVOLVED?

- 3 visits that will total 5 hours of participation
- 2 at Deakin University, 1 at an indoor batting cage

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING?

- Analysis of your batting performance
- Contribute to the development of innovative baseball training methods?

IPAN
INSTITUTE FOR PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND NUTRITION

CSR
CENTRE FOR SPORT RESEARCH

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

CONTACT: s224281179@deakin.edu.au



← **SCAN**



Baseball Victoria and School Sport Victoria Partnership

Baseball Victoria is thrilled to announce a new 1-year partnership with School Sport Victoria (SSV) to deliver the #SSV Interschool Sport Baseball Competition along with opportunities for students to represent #TeamVic at the School Sport Australia Championships.

SSV/school sport is an important component of BV's participation strategy with 4,113 students participating in interschool sport in 2024, which was an increase of 4% from 2023.

We look forward to continuing our partnership with #SSV and providing more opportunities for Victorian students to play baseball! [Learn more about SSV Baseball.](#)



BV Umpiring Working Group Updates: North West Umpire Hub Launch

On Monday evening, North Coburg Rebels hosted the first Northern Umpiring Hub. This hub is the second to be launched after the Eastern Hub at Forest Hill/Blackburn had its first meeting two weeks ago.

The idea behind the hubs is to have "club-like" environments for umpires to get together, receive instruction, study the rules, and talk about all things baseball and umpiring in places easily accessible to them locally. The goal is that umpires feel more supported and can continue developing their skills.

Currently, the Northern Hub meets on the second Monday of the month, and the Eastern Hub meets on the last Monday of the month. The hubs are open for anyone interested in baseball umpiring to attend.

If you are interested in hosting a hub or an Introduction to Umpiring Community Level Course, please email Alan Sutherland: bvumpirecommunications@baseballvictoria.com.au.

BV Umpiring Working Group Updates: Victorian Umpires at ASLC

Four Victorian umpires have been selected to officiate at the 2025 Australian Senior League Championship from 21-25 May in Geelong. Congratulations to Neil Douglass, Damien Ebenwaldner, Taylor Field and Patrick White.

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.

Club News: Ormond Glenhuntly Head Coach Expressions of Interest

Ormond Glenhuntly Baseball Club is seeking expressions of interest for a club coach for the 2025/26 summer season. The club aspires to win a Premier 2 Premiership with a growing junior program and a strong list, and is looking for a leader to coordinate training, support recruitment, and mentor players and coaches at all levels.

Please email Sam Robertson at sam@jimsbuildinginspections.com.au with your interest by 1 June.

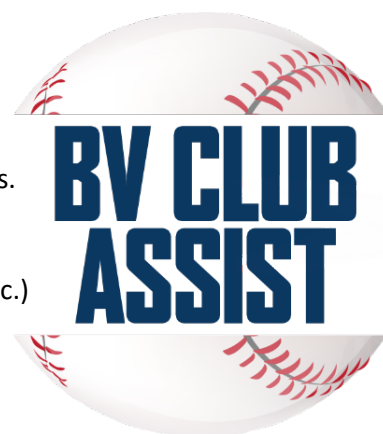
Club News: 2025 Winter Season

Good luck to everyone taking part in the 2025 winter season! If you haven't already, please find your [club link](#) 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 the winter season continues, we encourage club members to 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: 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 [Codes of Conduct on our website](#) and contact the BV Office with any questions.

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 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 [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.

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

Ethan Epifanio – Development Officer

Brooke Penfold – Technical Officer

Tony McPherson – Tournament Officer

Daniel Chircop – Pathways/MSA Coach

Samantha Hamilton – Performance Pathway Coach

