

# INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS  
DATE: 23 MAY 2025  
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA  
SUBJECT: HALL OF FAME, ADAM BURTON, NATIONALS, WELLBEING, GM, EVENTS, COLLEGE, SSV, UMPIRING, VICSPORT, SALESIAN, DEAKIN, CLUB NEWS, HONOUR ROLLS, LIFE BLOOD

## 2025 Baseball Victoria Hall of Fame

It was an absolute honour to present the first-ever Baseball Victoria Hall of Fame Evening on Wednesday 21 May at Lakeside Stadium, Albert Park. Thank you to all who attended as the Victorian baseball community came together to celebrate the past and share excitement in the future.

“Congratulations to our inaugural inductees who have achieved incredible success across grassroots, state, national, and international baseball,” BV CEO Chet Gray said.

“It was wonderful to see family, friends, fellow club members, and teammates come together to acknowledge the dedication of standout players, managers, administrators, umpires, and scorers. We look forward to continuing our Hall of Fame celebrations in the years to come.”



Our [inaugural Hall of Fame Class of 2025](#) included 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*



Photo: John Viney and family. [See all photos from Field of View Sports Photography.](#)

### Vale Adam Burton

Following the recent passing of beloved Victorian baseball player and coach Adam Burton, there will be a service to celebrate Adam's life at Mulgrave Country Club at 2pm on Friday 30 May. After the service, there will be a gathering at Waverley Baseball Club. [Please RSVP here](#) to assist the family with catering.

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 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.



### **2025 Australian Senior League Championship at Geelong Baseball Centre**

Rangers and Mets are playing in the 2025 Australian Senior League Championship at Geelong Baseball Centre. We wish them all the best as the tournament continues through Sunday 25 May. Head to the [baseball.com.au hub](https://baseball.com.au/hub) or follow along on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) for the latest updates.

Also, well done to our four Victorian umpires officiating at the tournament: Neil Douglass, Damien Ebenwaldner, Taylor Field and Patrick White.



*Jack Northfield recorded a 1.000 on-base-percentage through the first two days (4-for-4, 2BB, 4R, SB)*

*Photo: Brendon Beacom*

## **2025 Australian Intermediate League and Junior League Championships**

The 2025 Intermediate League and Junior League Championships, originally scheduled for 28 May to 1 June in Lismore, have been moved to the Gold Coast due to weather. Best of luck to Athletics and Mariners in Intermediate League and Mets and Athletics in Junior League!

A new schedule and more details can be found here: [www.baseball.com.au/news/iljlgoldcoast/](http://www.baseball.com.au/news/iljlgoldcoast/)

Three Victorian umpires have been selected to officiate at the AILC and AJLC. Congratulations to Gavin Daniels, Matt Fraser and Alan Sutherland.

## **Baseball Victoria TMA Project Introduces Wellbeing and Safeguarding Leads**

Baseball Victoria has partnered with Total Teams to present the Wellbeing and Safeguarding Project: Building Safe & Well Baseball Clubs, supported through Victorian Government funding.

Clubs will nominate their Wellbeing and Safeguarding Leads through an internal process, identifying leaders who will be responsible for championing a safe, supportive, and inclusive club environment, prioritising both child and adult safeguarding.

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](#).



## **Expressions of Interest for Baseball Victoria General Manager Operations**

Baseball Victoria is pleased to open expressions of interest for the newly created General Manager Operations role, one of the four leadership roles in BV. As 2IC for the organisation, the GM Operations is responsible for the strategic and operational delivery of all baseball competitions, events, and related pathway programs across Victoria.

This role ensures the effective planning, implementation, and continuous improvement of Baseball Victoria's operations, ensuring alignment with the organisation's strategic objectives and stakeholder expectations. Applications for this full-time role close Friday 13 June 2025. Click [HERE](#) to learn more and apply.

## 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](#).

## 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!



## BV Umpiring Working Group Updates: North West Umpire Hub Launch

On Monday 12 May, 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 several 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](mailto:bvumpirecommunications@baseballvictoria.com.au).

### **Empowering Equality: Bridging Human Rights and Sport**

Thank you to Vicsport, VicHealth, and Proud 2 Play for the opportunity to attend the [Empowering Equality: Bridging Human Rights and Sport event](#). This forum was a fantastic opportunity to better understand the link between Human Rights and Sport, and how we can all make a difference. Head to the [Vicsport website](#) for more information and inclusion resources.



*Michelle, Jess, and Rachael from the BV Office attended the Empowering Equality: Bridging Human Rights and Sport event at the MCG.*

### **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](mailto:ssellwood@salesian.vic.edu.au) to ensure they also complete a Sports Academy application.

Deakin University is conducting a study to test and refine a new questionnaire and monitoring tool for menstrual cycle-related symptoms and their impact on sport and physical activity. The research team is seeking physically active females/female athletes with a natural menstrual cycle to complete daily online surveys. Participants will be entered into a draw to win a \$100 Coles gift card every fortnight. Interested? Check out the flyer and scan the QR code for more information.

## Menstrual Cycle Research



**Are you an active female ?**

**We need you!**

### Who can participate?

- 15-45 years old with a normal menstrual cycle (e.g., regularly 21-35 days long, not using hormonal contraceptives)
- Complete  $\geq 2.5$  hours of moderate-intensity exercise a week or  $\geq 75$  minutes of high-intensity exercise a week



### What is involved?

- Complete 4 online questionnaires
- Monitor your menstrual cycle symptoms daily across two cycles
- Total anticipated time commitment ~6h across 2months



### Benefits of participation

- Enhance our understanding on menstrual cycle symptoms experienced by active females and their impact on exercise
- Get a chance to win a \$100 Coles gift card for every 2 weeks of daily monitoring you complete!



### Contact us

For more information please scan the QR code or email us at:  
mc-symptoms@deakin.edu.au

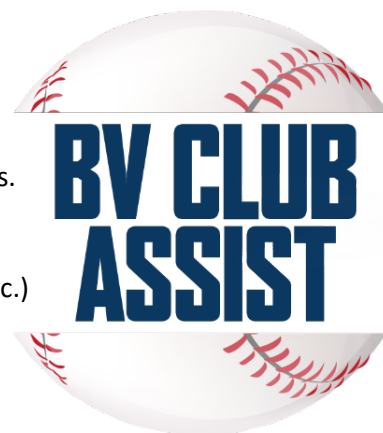


This study has received Deakin University ethics approval (reference number: 2024-036)

### **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](http://www.baseballvictoria.com.au/bv-club-assist) to get started.



### **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](#).

### 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: Ormond Glenhuntly Head Coach Expressions of Interest

Ormond Glenhuntly Baseball Club is seeking expressions of interest for a club coach for the 2025/26 VSBL 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. Email Sam Robertson at [sam@jimsbuildinginspections.com.au](mailto:sam@jimsbuildinginspections.com.au) with your interest by 1 June.

### 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

**Ethan Epifanio** – Development Officer

**Brooke Penfold** – Technical Officer

**Tony McPherson** – Tournament Officer

**Daniel Chircop** – Pathways/MSA Coach

**Samantha Hamilton** – Performance Pathway Coach

