

INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS

DATE: 5 JUNE 2025

FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA

SUBJECT: STATE WINTER CHAMPS, NATIONALS, GM, COACHING, COLLEGE,

WELLBEING, EVENTS, CLUB NEWS, BV TV, SALESIAN, HONOUR

ROLLS, LIFEBLOOD

Aces Sporting Club Senior State Winter Championships Return to Geelong Over Long Weekend

Baseball Victoria is thrilled to continue the tradition of State Winter Championships, with the beloved annual tournaments kicking off at Geelong Baseball Centre over the long weekend.

It will be an action-packed three days from 7-9 June with the Aces Sporting Club Senior State Winter Championships featuring the following teams:

- Division 1: Ballarat, Dandenong, Geelong, MWBL City, MWBL Ringwood
- Division 2: Bendigo, Latrobe Valley, North East, Sunraysia

The third annual Senior Women's SWC will feature teams from Ballarat, Bendigo, Dandenong, Geelong, and MWBL.

Running alongside these events is the Baseball Victoria All-Girls Winter Invitational, also in its third year, with four games each morning followed by training in the afternoon. Over 50 girls registered to participate, a fantastic turnout as we strive to keep growing female participation.

Baseball Victoria acknowledges the fantastic ongoing support of hosts Geelong Baseball Association, Guild All-Stars Baseball Club, and East Belmont Saints Baseball Club.

Read the full story HERE and stay tuned to BV Facebook, Instagram and Twitter for updates.



2025 Australian Junior League & Intermediate League Championships

Although the final day of the 2025 Intermediate League and Junior League Championships was called off due to heavy rain, our Victorian representatives have so much to be proud of. They persevered through challenging conditions and stayed positive, making great memories and new friends. They had some epic moments on the field, which you can catch up on via the tournament hub. Way to go Athletics and Mets Junior League and Athletics and Mariners Intermediate League!

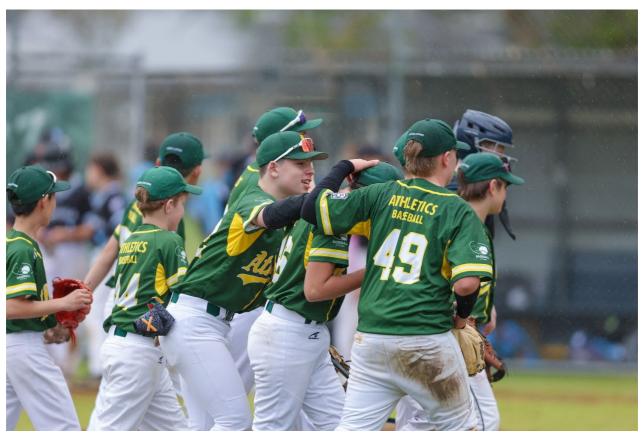


Photo: Baseball.com.au

2025 Australian Little League Championships

Rangers and Twins are gearing up for the 2025 Australian Little League Championships in Blacktown, NSW, starting this Sunday 8 June. They will play through Friday 13 June for the title of national champions. We wish them all the best of luck – you can follow along with their journey 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.

Barclay Cup & U16/U18 AYC Coach/Staff Expressions of Interest

Baseball Victoria will once again be entering teams to participate in the 2025 Barclay Cup and 2026 Australian Youth Championships (U16 and U18). Our teams have a very rich and successful history competing in these events and this is your chance to lead young Victorian baseballers to new heights.

Expressions of interest are open for manager (head coach), assistant coach, pitching coach and executive officer roles. Please click <u>HERE</u> to register your interest by Friday 13 June. Please email any questions to BV High Performance Officer damian.shanahan@baseballvictoria.com.au.

Australians Making an Impact in NCAA Division I National Championship Tournament

In 2025, there were a record number of Australians playing NCAA Division I baseball, and now the National Championship Tournament is here. Victorian Conor Myles pitched in the clinching game as University of Texas San Antonio (UTSA) upset the #2 overall seed Texas, booking their spot in Super Regionals for the first time ever.

Former AYC MVP Charlie Collins played for Southeastern, who eventually fell in the NAIA World Series Championship Game (Independent Schools). Read more HERE.

Baseball Victoria TMA Project: 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.

Thank you to all the winter club and association representatives who attended our first workshop for Wellbeing and Safeguard Leads (WSL) last week. These leaders will be responsible for championing a safe, supportive, and inclusive club environment, prioritising both child and adult safeguarding.

Workshops are aimed at helping participants 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. In the first session, WSLs learned how capability, motivation, and psychological safety are the core enablers of safe spaces that help turn good intentions into lasting change.

Learn more about the program **HERE** and stay tuned for more updates and resources.



Baseball Victoria 2025 Calendar of Events

A big year for baseball continues with BV Performance Pathway programs, State Winter Championships and national tournaments <u>throughout June and July</u>. Check out our full <u>Calendar of Events</u> and stay tuned for more baseball action.

Club News: Wangaratta Rangers 25th Anniversary Celebration

This year, Wangaratta Rangers Baseball Club celebrate a significant milestone – the Rangers' 25th anniversary!

The club warmly invites all past and present players, members, volunteers, and supporters to join in the celebration at Targoora Park, 330 Wangaratta-Whitfield Road, Wangaratta on Sunday 27 July 2025 for a day that recognises everyone who has contributed to the club's journey.

Baseball will be on show all day, with Rangers teams facing fellow Rangers:

U15s: 8:30am – 9:50am

• C Grade: 10:10am – 11:30am (playing North Albury Bears)

U12s: 10:30am – 11:30am
B Grade: 12:00pm – 2:00pm
A Grade: 2:30pm – 4:30pm

The canteen will be open throughout the day, and from 3:30pm, Griff will serve his renowned American BBQ feast (\$20 per person for those dining). Formal proceedings, including reflections on 25 years and the announcement of Quarter-of-a-Century All Stars, will follow the final out of the A Grade game.

To assist with catering, please click **HERE** to RSVP.



Club News: Cheltenham Rustlers Coach Expressions of Interest

Cheltenham Rustlers Baseball Club is seeking expressions of interest for a women's baseball coach for the 2025/26 VSBL season. The Rustlers are looking for someone who is passionate about empowering female athletes and sharing a love of baseball. Email cheltenhamrustlersbc@gmail.com to express your interest.

Club News: Sandringham Royals Coach Expressions of Interest

Sandringham Royals Baseball Club is looking for a Premier 1 Reserves coach for the 2025/26 VSBL season. The ideal candidate will be an enthusiastic and experienced coach eager to develop and foster the young Royals group. Head to our club ads page for more info or email secretary@sandybaseball.com.au.

Club News: Club Umpire Coordinator & Behind the Mask Umpire Nominations

Baseball Victoria is requesting each club to nominate a Club Umpire Coordinator for the upcoming 2025/26 VSBL season. This individual will work in collaboration with the Baseball Victoria Umpire Recruitment and Retention Officer and the BV Umpiring Working Group.

Their role will be pivotal in:

- Promoting umpiring opportunities within the club
- Supporting the development of new and existing umpires
- Facilitating education and training initiatives
- Contributing to the overall growth of the umpiring community at the grassroots level

Please click **HERE** to submit your nominations.

Club News: BV Club Assist Resources for Volunteers

As the <u>winter season</u> continues, we encourage club members to check out the recently updated <u>BV 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.

Head to <u>www.baseballvictoria.com.au/bv-club-assist</u> 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 <u>11 Child Safe Sport Modules</u>.

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: Webinar - Recruiting and Retaining Women in Sport

Vicsport invites you to a webinar on Wednesday 23 June: *Understanding the Victorian Sport Workforce:* Recruiting and Retaining Women in Sport.

From 12-1pm, this free online session (via Teams) will present findings from a research project identifying Victorian sport sector workforce and recruitment trends since 2016, using LinkedIn data.

Recommendations for ensuring high-quality and equitable recruitment practices as well as strategies to identify gaps and ensure retention of staff will be provided in an interactive and engaging online webinar.

Click <u>HERE</u> to register or contact <u>admin@vicsport.com.au</u> for more information.













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</u> <u>Drills</u>. Follow us on <u>Instagram</u> and <u>TikTok</u> for more fun drills and behind the scenes.

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 <u>ssellwood@salesian.vic.edu.au</u> to ensure they also complete a Sports Academy application.

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



































